MARVEL

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

BRAND NEW DAY

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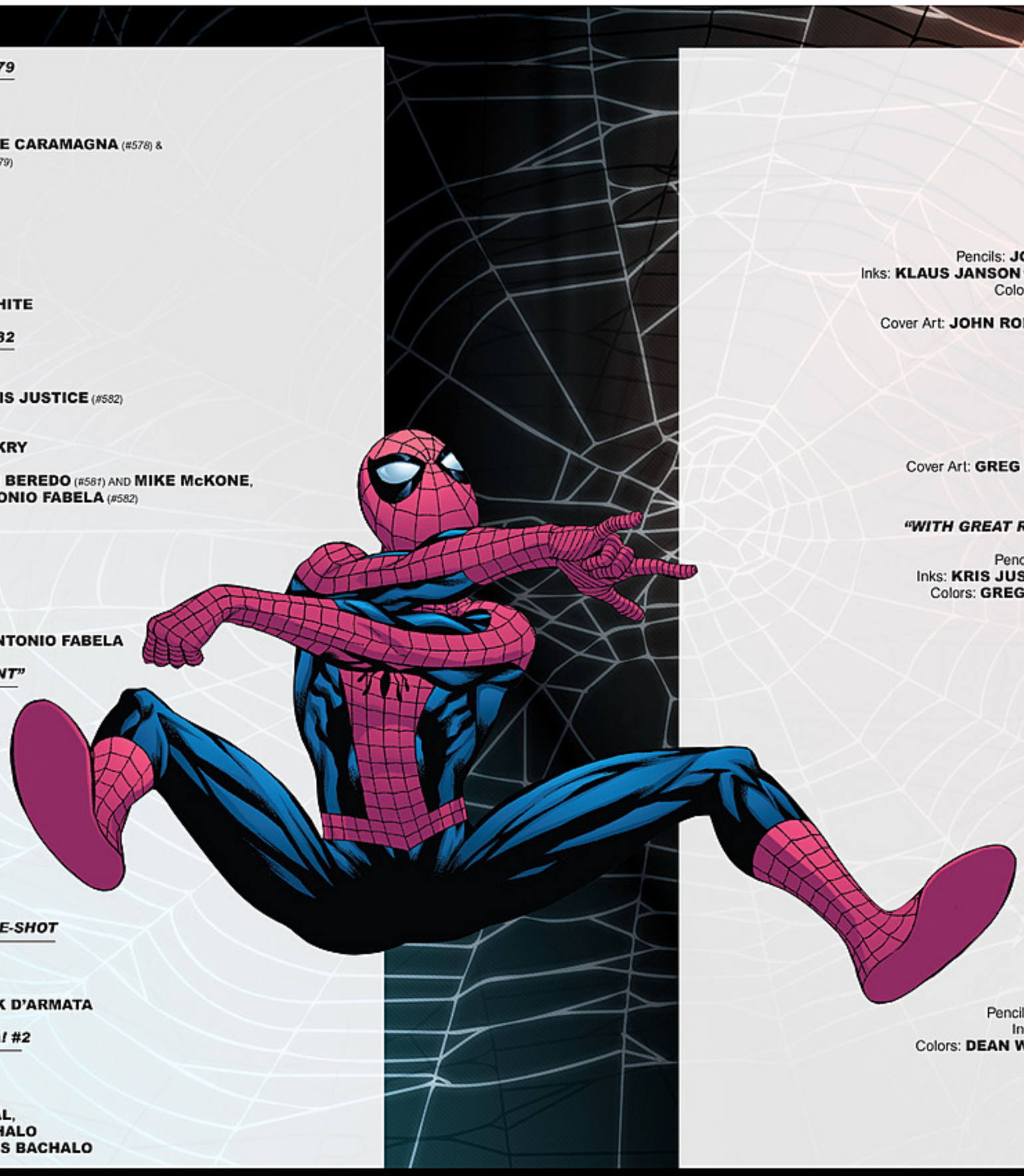
BRAND NEW DAY



AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #578-579

Writer: **MARK WAID**
Artist: **MARCOS MARTIN**
Colors: **JAVIER RODRIGUEZ**
Letters: **VC's CORY PETIT** WITH **JOE CARAMAGNA** (*#578*) & **CHRIS ELIOPOULOS** (*#579*)
Cover Art: **MARCOS MARTIN**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #580

Writer: **ROGER STERN**
Artist: **LEE WEEKS**
Colors: **DEAN WHITE**
Letters: **VC's CORY PETIT**
Cover Art: **LEE WEEKS** & **DEAN WHITE**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #581-582

Writer: **DAN SLOTT**
Pencils: **MIKE McKONE**
Finishes: **ANDY LANNING** WITH **KRIS JUSTICE** (*#582*)
Colors: **JEROMY COX**
Art, *#582*, pp. 22: **KLAUS JANSON**
Colors, *#582*, pp. 22: **CHRIS CHUCKRY**
Letters: **VC's CORY PETIT**
Cover Art: **BARRY KITSON** & **RAIN BEREDO** (*#581*) AND **MIKE McKONE**, **ANDY LANNING** & **ANTONIO FABELA** (*#582*)

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #583

Writer: **MARK WAID**
Pencils: **BARRY KITSON**
Inks: **MARK FARMER**
Colors: **ANDRES MOSSA**
Letters: **VC's CORY PETIT**
Cover Art: **JOHN ROMITA SR.** & **ANTONIO FABELA**

"SPIDEY MEETS THE PRESIDENT"

Writer: **ZEB WELLS**
Artist: **TODD NAUCK**
Colors: **FRANK D'ARMATA**
Letters: **JARED K. FLETCHER**
Cover Art: **PHIL JIMENEZ**

"GETTYSBURG DISTRESS"

Writer: **MATT FRACTION**
Artist: **ANDY MACDONALD**
Colors: **NICK FILARDI**
Letters: **CHRIS ELIOPOULOS**
Cover Art: **PAOLO RIVERA**

SPIDER-MAN: FEAR ITSELF ONE-SHOT

Writer: **STUART MOORE**
Artist: **JOE SUITOR**
Letters: **JARED K. FLETCHER**
Cover Art: **MICO SUAYAN** & **FRANK D'ARMATA**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: EXTRA! #2

"BLACK & WHITE"
Writer: **DAN SLOTT**
Pencils: **CHRIS BACHALO**
Inks: **TIM TOWNSEND, JON SIBAL, JAIME MENDOZA** & **CHRIS BACHALO**
Colors: **ANTONIO FABELA** & **CHRIS BACHALO**

"BIRTHDAY BOY"
Writer: **ZEB WELLS**
Artist: **PAOLO RIVERA**

Letters: **VC's RUS WOOTON**
Cover Art: **STEPHANE ROUX**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #584-588

Writer: **MARC GUGGENHEIM**
Pencils: **JOHN ROMITA JR.** WITH **BARRY KITSON** (*#586*)
Inks: **KLAUS JANSON** WITH **KARL KESEL** (*#586*) & **TOM PALMER** (*#588*)
Colors: **DEAN WHITE** WITH **ANDRES MOSSA** (*#586*)
Letters: **VC's CORY PETIT**
Cover Art: **JOHN ROMITA JR., KLAUS JANSON** & **DEAN WHITE**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: EXTRA! #1

"THE SPARTACUS GAMBIT"
Writer: **MARC GUGGENHEIM**
Artist: **MARCOS MARTIN**
Colors: **JAVIER RODRIGUEZ**
Letters: **VC'S CORY PETIT**
Cover Art: **GREG LAND, JAY LEISTEN & FRANK D'ARMATA**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: EXTRA #3

"WITH GREAT RESPONSIBILITY COMES GREAT POWER"
Writer: **MARC GUGGENHEIM**
Pencils: **FABRIZIO FIORENTINO** & **PAT OLLIFFE**
Inks: **KRIS JUSTICE, JOHN LIVESAY** & **SERGE LAPOINTE**
Colors: **GREG LAND, JAY LEISTEN** & **FRANK D'ARMATA**

"NICE THINGS"
Writer: **JOE KELLY**
Artist: **DALE EAGLESHAM**
Colors: **RAIN BEREDO**

"LOOSE ENDS"
Writer & Artist: **PHIL JIMENEZ**
Colors: **CHRIS CHUCKRY**

Writer: **VC's RUS WOOTON**
Cover Art: **TOMM COKER**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #589

Writer: **FRED VAN LENTE**
Pencils: **PAULO SIQUEIRA**
Inks: **AMILTON SANTOS**
Colors: **JEROMY COX**
Letters: **VC's CORY PETIT**
Cover Art: **KLAUS JANSON** & **DEAN WHITE**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #590-591

Writer: **DAN SLOTT**
Pencils: **BARRY KITSON** WITH **DALE EAGLESHAM**
Inks: **MARK FARMER** & **JESSE DELPERDANG**
Colors: **DEAN WHITE** WITH **ANDY TROY** & **CHRIS CHUCKRY**
Letters: **VC's JOE CARAMAGNA**
Cover Art: **BARRY KITSON** & **JEROMY COX**

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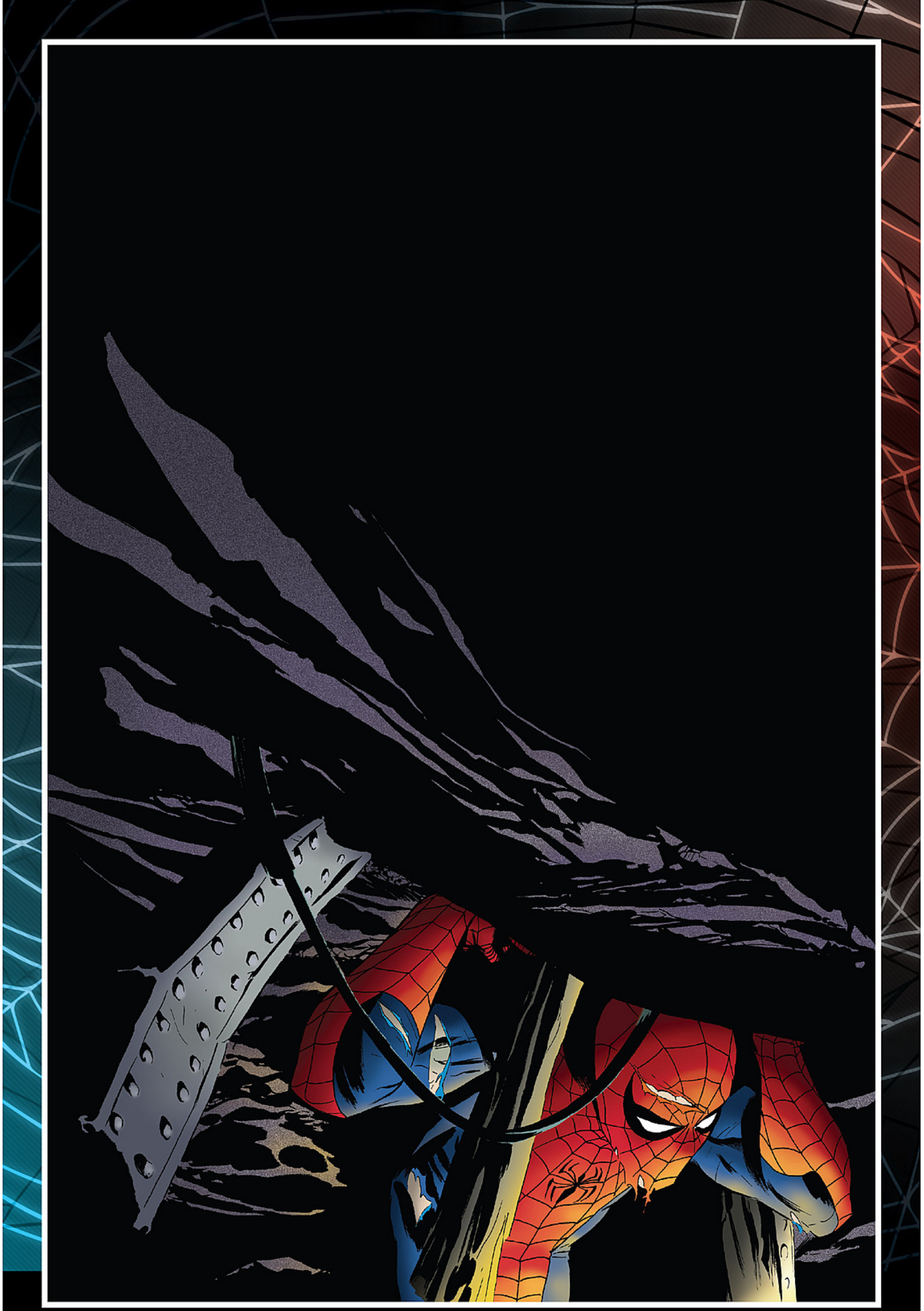

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #578

THE DB! FOR EVERY BRAND *NEWS* DAY!

THE DB

WHO'S THE TOUGHER CANDIDATE ON CRIME? RANDALL CROWNE PUBLICLY DERIDES KARNELLI FAMILY'S CONNECTION TO GIACOMO MOB TRIAL, FORMER D.A. BILL HOLLISTER "WON'T COMMENT IN RESPECT TO THE PROCESS!" MORE ON PAGE L68

NOVEMBER 19, 2008 • WEDNESDAY

CRIME & PUNISHERS

A recent revival of superhuman forces in the criminal underworld has Spider-Man on high alert. First, Hammerhead received a power upgrade and position within Mr. Negative's burgeoning criminal organization. Then Pete found himself aligned with the Punisher, of all people, to stop old Avenger's foe Moses Magnum from an arms deal that would put ordinary mobsters on a super-powered level. Factor in Spidey's tacit alliance with super-villain bet-taker extraordinaire, The Bookie (whose shoddy investigation of the Spider-Tracer killings left him on the business end of a stun gun, courtesy of Spider-Foe and deposed Daily Bugle publisher, J. Jonah Jameson), and you get the feeling that when it rains for Spider-Man, it pours…

POLICE TIE SPIDER-MAN TO RECENT MURDERS!

EXCLUSIVE TO THE DB!

In off-the-record conversations with DB staffers, police have confirmed that Spider-Man is the key suspect in the string of recent murders that has shocked this city. Although police have been reluctant to discuss the specifics of the murders, so-called "Spider Tracers" have definitely been found on each victim, leaving no doubt as to the involvement of Spider-Man. Spider-Man is already wanted for violations of…

CONTINUED ON A2

TODAY WILL BE
YOUR LUCKY DAY

HAR.

unscheduled stop

part 1

MARK WAID	MARCOS MARTIN	JAVIER RODRIGUEZ	VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA	TOM BRENNAN	STEPHEN WACKER	TOM BREVOORT	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY
WRITER	ARTIST	COLORS	LETTERS	ASST. EDITOR	SOAKED	EXECUTIVE EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF	PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, & SLOTT SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

LUCKY DAY, MY SOAKING-WET *SIZE NINES.*

NO SOONER DO I DROP MY *LAST DIME* ON A *HOT LUNCH* THAN THE *SKY* OPENS UP.

I COULD *SWEAR* I SAW A GUY OVER ON *FLATBUSH* BUILDING AN *ARK.*

NOW AUNT MAY'S EXPECTING HER FAVORITE NEPHEW AT THE *F.E.A.S.T.* CENTER IN HALF AN HOUR, AND BY THE TIME I WEB IT FROM *BROOKLYN* IN *THIS* MESS, I'M GONNA BE AN HONORARY *ATLANTEAN.*

MAN, WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE FOR--

SPLATT

--CARFARE--

This side up

This side down

Clark St Station

$2.00 REMAINING

YES! ONE RIDE LEFT!

CONGRATULATIONS, MR. TRUMP! D'YA MIND CELEBRATIN' SOMEWHERES ELSE?

NO LIMOUSINE FOR YOU!

CHEER UP, WHY DON'TCHA.

Exit

PAL, YOU'D BE *STUNNED* AT HOW LITTLE IT TAKES TO MAKE A GUY LIKE ME HAPPY.

...LUCKY DAY...

...'SCUSE...

...LUCKY DAY...

...PARDON...

MOMMY, THAT MAN'S *SQUISHING.*

YOU'D BE SQUISHING, *TOO,* YOU LITTLE RUNT, IF YOUR *UNDERWEAR* WERE SOPPING WET. *GHUUH.*

NONETHELESS, A SOGGY *SPIDEY SUIT* IS A SMALL PRICE TO *PAY* FOR A CHEERFUL TRANSIT AUTHORITY EXPERIENCE!

HOLD THE DOOR, THANKS!

Exit

Clar Stre

NEXT TRAIN.

BUT THAT'S NOT FOR *TWENTY--*

NEXT.

TRAIN.

HEY, *CUTIE!*

C'MON! ÁNDALE!

WHAT WAS *THAT* ABOUT?

1504

THERE CAN'T BE MORE THAN A ***DOZEN PASSENGERS*** OR SO ON THAT CAR.

IT'S EMPTIER THAN AUNT MAY'S SWEAR JAR.

HURRY!

DING-DONG

WHEW! JUST IN THE *NICK!*

WOW, YOU CAN *MOVE!*

PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH AND SPEED OF A *DESPERATE COMMUTER.*

NEXT STOP, LOWER MANHATTAN, WALL STREET!

LUCKY DAY.

ARK STREET
LYN HEIGHTS

=WHEW=
SORRY. IT'S LIKE SURFING, ISN'T IT? THIS STRETCH IS ALWAYS REALLY LURCHY.
I'M A GREAT SURFER.
I LOVE BEING OUT IN THE SUN WITH THE SURF AND THE POUNDING WAVES AND THE... OOH.
I BET YOU...
IT'S... WARM IN HERE. ARE YOU WARM?
NOT REALLY. DON'T TELL ANYONE, BUT I HAVE HARDLY ANYTHING ON UNDER THIS RAINCOAT.
WH-WH-WHY-WH-WHY WOULD THAT BE?
I'M A MODEL. I WAS ON MY WAY TO A PHOTO SHOOT, BUT IT GOT CANCELLED...
...WHICH SUCKS, BECAUSE I REALLY NEED THESE PICTURES.
WHAT DO YOU DO?
NNNNGH!

YOU OKAY, DOLLFACE?

NOT WITH MY SPIDER-SENSE GOING OFF LIKE A FIRE ALARM, NO!

I CAN'T EVEN TELL WHERE THE DANGER'S COMING FROM--NOT SARDINE-CRAMMED INTO THIS CROWD!

WAIT--

--SOMETHING ABOUT THAT REAR CAR--!

'SCUSE ME! COMIN' THROUGH!

WHATEVER, LOSER.

ONE SIDE, FOLKS!

HEY!

WATCH IT, YOU JERK!

OW!

PLEASE-- YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! I'M TRYING NOT TO HURT ANYONE--!

DON'T YOU THREATEN MY BOY!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I--

FOR GOD'S SAKE, LET ME THROUGH!

FINE!

ALMOST THERE...

TOO LATE.

HOLY--!!!

SKREEEE

KHOOM

TLK

TEK

KLIK

IS EVERYONE *KOFF* EVERYONE ALL RIGHT?

OKAY, JUST STAY CALM--

AAAAAA!

?

LITTLE...

...HELP...

...HERE...?

SPIDER-MAN!
HE'S TEARING DOWN THE TUNNEL!
HE'LL KILL US ALL!
"NO GOOD DEED..."
...STORY OF MY LIFE...
I CAN'T... HOLD UP THE EAST RIVER...MUCH LONGER, FOLKS! BUDDY, GRAB...THAT WOMAN...!
C-CAN'T. MY ARM... THINK IT'S BROKEN...
GREAT.
WE'VE GOT HER!
SPIDEY'S KEEPING THE ROOF FROM CAVING! WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU PEOPLE?
ALL TOGETHER! PULL!
CONGRATS... PAL.
YOU'RE MY NEW...PRESS AGENT...
ANYONE ELSE... UNDERFOOT...?
ALL CLEAR!
THEN...ON THREE...
...ONETWO THREE!
KA-THOOM!

NOT SO FAST! STAY RIGHT THERE WHERE WE CAN SEE YOU, MISTER! OFFICER DAVIS, KEEP THIS MAN COVERED!

DAVIS? PARTNER, YOU BACK THERE? WHERE ARE Y--

EEEEEEEE!

HE'S BACK HERE!

AW, HELL...

I'M SORRY.

I COULDN'T BE AT BOTH ENDS OF THE CAR AT ONCE. I--

WHOA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

FREEZE!

YOU'RE UPSET. I UNDERSTAND.

DON'T TAKE IT OUT ON ME.

THWIPP

I'M SURE I'LL PAY FOR THAT LATER, BUT RIGHT NOW, YOU'RE ESCALATING THE PANIC. INSTEAD--AND HERE'S A NOVEL NOTION--LET'S WORK TOGETHER HERE. QUICKLY, BUT CALMLY.

THE GOOD NEWS IS, I SUSPECT THE CARS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE COLLAPSE ARE SAFE. THIS IS THE ONLY ONE THAT ACTUALLY GOT HIT.

HONESTLY?

I THINK WE MAY HAVE BEEN TARGETED.

THAT SAID, I NEED TO KNOW IF ANYONE SAW HOW OR WHY-- BECAUSE RANDOM EARTHQUAKES DON'T HAPPEN IN NEW YORK.

WE WERE ON OUR WAY, UNDER *GUARD*, TO SURVEY A *CRIME SCENE*. THAT'S WHY WE HAD THE CAR TO *OURSELVES*. WE'RE THE JURY FOR THE *GIACOMO* TRIAL.

SIR, SPEAKING FOR THE OFFICE OF THE *DISTRICT ATTORNEY*, I CAUTION YOU NOT TO COMPROMISE--

COUNSELOR, I'M PRETTY SURE THIS *ALREADY* CONSTITUTES A *MISTRIAL*.

GIACOMO? HE'S ONE OF *CARMINE KARNELLI'S* BOYS!

ARE YOU SAYING KARNELLI PUT OUT A HIT ON THE *WHOLE JURY?*

YOU CAN'T *PROVE* THAT!

GIACOMO'S LAWYER?

GOOD GUESS.

TO BE FAIR, THE SMELL WAS MY *FIRST* CLUE.

CAREFUL! THAT'S *DEFAMATION!*

NO. IF I CALLED YOU A *VOMITOUS LOWLIFE, THAT* WOULD BE *DEFAMATION.*

TO VOMITOUS LOWLIFES.

THAT UNCONSCIOUS WOMAN AWAKE NOW? GOOD. THEN FOLLOW ME.

WE SHOULD STAY AND WAIT FOR RESCUE!

ORDINARILY, GOD HELP ME, I'D AGREE WITH YOU-- THAT'S CERTAINLY TRANSIT-ADVICE S.O.P.--

--BUT WHATEVER HIT US KNOCKED OUT THE THIRD RAIL *AND* ANY EMERGENCY LIGHTS--*AND* MY SPIDER-SENSE IS STILL A-*CLANGIN'*, WHICH MEANS WE'RE *SITTING DUCKS* IF WE DON'T *VAMOOSE*.

FAUX-QUAKE. SUBTLE, AT LEAST BY *KARNELLI* STANDARDS.

SABOTAGE THE JURY, MAKE IT LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT, TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MISTRIAL TO STALL A VERDICT. THERE ARE *EASIER* METHODS...

...BUT THIS ONE SENDS A MESSAGE TO THE WHOLE *COURT* SYSTEM NOT TO CROSS HIM, WOULD BE MY GUESS.

WELL *OBSERVED*. DO I KNOW YOU?

NO.

BECAUSE YOU SEEM REALLY FAMILIAR TO ME FOR SOME REASON. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

I'D... RATHER NOT SAY.

SUIT YOURSELF. I'M JUST SAYIN'--

--OH, NO, NO, *NO--!*

RRRRRRRR

BACK UP! *BACK UP!*

THE CEILING'S GIVING WAY--

--AND WE'RE STILL UNDER THE RIVER!

SHHOOM

OH, GOD!

RUN! RUNNN!

STAY TOGETHER, PEOPLE! TOGETHER!

SPIDER-MAN, DO SOMETHING!

TRUST ME, I'M GIVING IT ALL I'VE GOT!

DON'T LET THESE FOLKS SCATTER!

OUT OF MY WAY!

-HHNNGH!-

AGAIN... NOT LIKELY AN ACCIDENT, THIS. WHO'S BEHIND IT...

...AND HOW LONG BEFORE THINGS GET WORSE?

KSSSSH

AAAAAAH!

I CAN'T SEE! I CAN'T SEE!

GONNA DIE

SAVE ME

OVER HERE! I THINK THIS IS A LADDER!

LADDER?

KLIK

NO!

HANG ON! SOMETHING'S WRONG!

WHERE DOES IT GO?

WHO CARES? CLIMB!

MAYBE WE CAN AT LEAST GET HIGH ENOUGH TO GET A CELL PHONE SIGNAL.

I HAVE A REALLY UGLY FEELING ABOUT THIS!

GOOD CALL.
AAAAAAAAAAGH!

LONG TIME NO, CREEP. 'SMATTER? DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOUR OLD PAL, THE SHOCKER?

GNNAAAAH

I'M DOIN' GOOD, THANKS. PUNCHIN' UP THE OLD VIBRO-GAUNTLETS... MAKING SOME SOLID DOUGH AS AN ENFORCER FOR KARNELLI...

...WHO, BIG SURPRISE, DOES NOT WANT THESE JURORS LEAVING HERE ALIVE.

HFFFFF!

T-T-TOUGH!

LOUSY--!

LET'S SEE HOW HARD YOU KICK WITH POWDERED BONES, BUG!

OH, NO, YOU DON'T!

COME BACK HERE!

ON SECOND THOUGHT...

WHAT'S THE MATTER?

NOT TOO SMART TO PICK A FIGHT IN TIGHT QUARTERS, IS IT?

NOT WITH SOMEBODY WHO HITS AS HARD AS I DO--

--AND CAN LITERALLY SHAKE YOUR PUNCHES RIGHT OFF!

THINK AGAIN, BUNKY!

TIGHT SPACES ARE A PLUS WITH YOU--

--'CAUSE I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN I'VE GOTTEN UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL ENOUGH TO YOU--

AAAGHH!

KRUNCH

--TO DO THIS!

KRUNNNCH

NO! THE FEEDBACK--!

OH, MY LORD...

STUPID COOKIE...LUCKY DAY, MY EYE.

WE'RE NOT GOING TO WALK AWAY FROM THIS, ARE WE?

I

+KOFF+

I DON'T SEE *HOW.*

THAT ROOF ISN'T GONNA *HOLD...*

...THE ACCESS SHAFT HAS *COLLAPSED...*

...AND THE WATER'S RISING *FAST.*

THEN I DON'T WANT TO GO TO MY GRAVE NOT *APOLOGIZING* TO YOU, SPIDER-MAN.

TO *ME?* FOR *WHAT?*

FOR MY *SON.*

I SUPPOSE I SHOULD *INTRODUCE* MYSELF.

MY NAME IS J. JONAH JAMESON...

...SENIOR.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #579

TCH.

The F.E.A.S.T. Center.

WHAT'S IRKIN', MIZ PARKER?

OH, IT'S MY NEPHEW, PETER. HE *PROMISED* HE'D BE HERE BEFORE *NOON.*

IZZE COMIN' FROM *BROOKLYN?* MIGHT NOT BE HIS *FAULT* HE'S *LATE...*

SONY

--AND WHILE THERE WERE NO SERIOUS INJURIES ON THE FORWARD CARS OF THE TRAIN, THE LAST CAR WAS LOST IN A TUNNEL COLLAPSE--OF AS-YET-UNKNOWN ORIGIN--ABOUT MIDWAY BETWEEN BROOKYLN AND MANHATTAN.

AS YOU CAN SEE BEHIND ME, WORKERS ARE UNDERTAKING RESCUE EFFORTS TO CHECK FOR SURVIVORS BUT CANNOT PUSH PAST THE RUBBLE. WE ARE LIVE AT THE SCENE...

On Scene

Exit

Wall St

F.D.N.Y

NY On

12: 17

54°

Wall Street Station

ZONY

OH, DEAR.

YOU DON'T THINK PETE WAS ON THAT TRAIN, DO YA, MAY?

HANG ON. THEY'RE UPDATING.

--SOME NEW INFORMATION, PAT.

WHAT WE'RE NOW HEARING IS THAT THE TRAIN SECTION CAUGHT IN THE COLLAPSE WAS A PRIVATE CAR TRANSPORTING THE JURORS OF THE GIACOMO TRIAL.

On Scene

Wall Street Station

ZONY

OH! WHAT A--

--WELL, I SHOULDN'T SAY "RELIEF"--HOW TERRIBLE FOR THOSE POOR PEOPLE CAUGHT IN THAT AWFULNESS--

--BUT I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT OF ALL THE PLACES PETER COULD BE--

"--HE ISN'T THERE."

THWIP!

YOUR WEBBING'S NOT *HOLDING.*

I HAVE EVEN *BETTER* NEWS. IN ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES, IT'S GONNA DISSOLVE *COMPLETELY.* BUT LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING *IMPORTANT:*

WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE J. JONAH JAMESON'S FATHER?

unscheduled stop part 2

MARK WAID	MARCOS MARTIN	JAVIER RODRIGUEZ	VC'S CHRIS ELIOPOULOS	TOM BRENNAN	STEPHEN WACKER	TOM BREVOORT	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY
WRITER	ARTIST	COLORS	LETTERS	ASST. EDITOR	WATERLOGGED	EXECUTIVE EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF	PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM, & SLOTT SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

I'M SORRY WE HAD TO *MEET* LIKE THIS. I'M SORRY FOR MY *SON.*

DON'T APOLOGIZE TO *ME.* APOLOGIZE TO THE *HUMAN RACE.*

YOU SAID WE'RE NOT GONNA BE *ABLE* TO GET OUT OF THIS!

NO, I SAID I DIDN'T SEE *HOW.* NOW I *DO.* I JUST NEEDED A MINUTE TO *THINK.*

JAMESON, GIVE ME SOME *LIGHT* OVER HERE.

FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN SLIGHTLY *DISTRACTED* WHEN, OH, THE *EXIT SHAFT* CRUMBLED AND DOOMED US *ALL...THIS* LOWLIFE IS THE *SHOCKER.*

RIGHT NOW, LET'S FIND THE *EXIT.*

HE WAS *HIRED* BY *GIACOMO--*

I *OBJECT!*

OVERRULED, MOB-SALARIED COUNSELOR!

--HE WAS *HIRED* BY *GIACOMO* TO *ENGINEER* THIS OH-SO "*ACCIDENTAL*" TUNNEL COLLAPSE--

--USING THESE TRADEMARK *VIBRO-GAUNTLETS* OF HIS THAT NOW *LOOK* EXACTLY LIKE I *FEEL.*

WAKEY-*WAKEY,* MR. QUICKER PICKER-UPPER.

WHU... WHERE...?

THAT'S THE GUY WHO *DID* THIS? YOU MURDERED MY *PARTNER,* YOU SICK SON OF A--

I'LL KILL YOU!

WHOA! NOT SO *FAST!* THE SHOCKER IS *ABSOLUTELY* A REPELLENT *CREEP--*

--BUT HE IS *NOT* A *SUICIDAL DOPE.* HE GOT *DOWN* HERE SOMEHOW...SO THAT MUST MEAN HE KNOWS HOW TO GET *OUT.*

RIGHT?

I...I...

HEY!

THIS IS NOT TWENTY QUESTIONS, AND I AM NOT FRIENDLY IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD!

WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF AIR AND WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF TIME! IS THIS WHERE WE'RE ALL GOING TO DIE? YOU AND US BOTH?

ANSWER ME!

ǂKOFFǂ

TH-THERE'S AN OLD, UNUSED ǂKOFFǂ MAINTENANCE TUNNEL THAT...

...THAT RUNS PARALLEL TO THIS ONE.

WHERE?

UP THROUGH THAT.

AWESOME.

GOOD THING WE HAVE A *JACKHAMMER*, THEN. JAMESON, *LIGHT*.

I NEED TO *SEE* TO *UNBREAK* THIS AS BEST I *CAN*.

LUCKILY, I *KNOW* A THING OR TWO ABOUT *WRIST-MOUNTED GIZMOS*.

EVERYBODY, *LISTEN UP*.

WE'RE *SEALED OFF*, AND THE CEILING'S GIVING *WAY*.

OUR ONLY CHANCE OF GETTING *OUT* OF HERE IS FOR ME TO LOOSEN THE *RUBBLE* THAT'S BLOCKING THE AFOREMENTIONED *SHAFT*, COMMA, *EXIT*.

I'D MAKE *PILLOWFACE* DO THIS, BUT I DON'T TRUST HIM NOT TO *TURN* ON US, SO IT'S UP TO *ME*.

STAND *BACK* AND, ABOVE *ALL*, *IGNORE* MY GIRLISH SCREAM OF *ANGUISH*--

--BECAUSE THIS IS GONNA *HURT*.

KLIK

…ON 'HO…

…HO

I—HHHHHHHHHO

THWIP!

...MAKE SURE YOU REALIZE JUST HOW MUCH IS AT *STAKE* WITH *DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS*, JONAH.

I DO.

MARLA, JONAH'S PREPARED TO FILE CITING "*IRRECONCILABLE DIFFERENCES*" FOR, AND I QUOTE, WHILE GLOSSING OVER THE *PROFANITIES*...

..."BLEEPING SELLING HIS BELOVED *DAILY BUGLE* OUT FROM BLEEPING *UNDER* HIM WITHOUT HIS BLEEPING *CONSENT*."

I DID WHAT I *HAD* TO TO KEEP JONAH *ALIVE* AFTER HIS *HEART ATTACK*.

I REGRET *NOTHING*.

I DON'T *WANT* THIS...BUT IF JONAH THINKS IT'LL MAKE HIM *HAPPIER*, I WON'T STAND IN HIS *WAY*.

SHE SAYS THE BALL'S IN *YOUR COURT*, JONAH. WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO *SAY* TO THAT?

BREAKING NEWS

Panasonix

JONAH...?

OKAY. LET'S TRY IT TOGETHER.

WATCH YOUR HANDS. AND...

EVERYONE *LIFT!*

ALMOST *THERE...*

...LIFT!

⇶KKUUUUH!÷

⇶KAFF÷ ⇶KAFF÷

ANYTHING BROKEN? CAN YOU MOVE?

DOC...⇶KAFF÷... WILL I BE ABLE TO PLAY THE *VIOLIN...?*

HE'S FINE!

AIR'S NOT THE *ISSUE.* IT'S THE *FLOODING.* CAN WE LET THE RISING WATER FLOAT US *UP?*

ROOF'LL CRUSH US *FIRST,* AND THAT'S COMING *ANY SECOND.* C'MON.

TERRIFIC. ONE MORE PAIR OF *LUNGS* TO USE UP WHAT'S LEFT OF THE *AIR.*

I'LL TRADE *HIS* FOR *YOURS,* YOU SICK--

DON'T. HE'S NOT *WORTH* IT.

ME?

I NEED SOMEONE TO HOLD THE *LIGHT.*

IT'S FADING.
LIKE I NEEDED ANOTHER DEADLINE TO WORRY ABOUT.
HEY, HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ENGINEERING?
NOT MUCH.
AH.
WELL, THAT'S PROBABLY A GOOD THING.
HOW COME?
BECAUSE IF YOU KNEW ANYTHING AT ALL ABOUT STUFF LIKE BRACING AND LOAD DISTRIBUTION--
--THEN THE SIGHT OF THIS WOULD SEND YOU INTO A BLIND PANIC.
OKAY, LI'L SCAFFOLD...I CHRISTEN THEE THE "S.S. HAIL MARY"!

IS HE *KIDDING* WITH THIS THING?

YOU GOT A *BETTER* IDEA, I'M ALL *EARS!* ME, I'LL TAKE THE *CHANCE!*

ANNND

HNNNNHHH!

OH*MAN*THISISHEAVY...

WHAT CAN I DO TO--?

SHINE THE LIGHT *DOWN!*

DON'T WORRY ABOUT *ME!* WORRY ABOUT *THEM!*

HNNNHHHH!

IT'S HOLDING!

FINGERS CROSSED. SO... HHHNNNHH...

...YOU'RE REALLY... ⇢HNN⇠...JJJ'S POP, HUH?

WHAT DID YOU DO TO THAT KID? RAISE HIM IN A...⇢HGK⇠... SKINNER BOX FULL OF CIGARS AND ONIONS?

JONAH'S STEPFATHER WAS THE CIGAR SMOKER.

THAT'S WHO RAISED JONAH AFTER I...HAD TO LEAVE. HIS STEPFATHER. A MILITARY MAN.

MY BROTHER.

WHAT WAS THAT?

NEVER MIND.

SO WAS JONAH OLD ENOUGH TO REMEMBER Y-Y-

YAAAAH--!

YOU OKAY? YOU NEED THE LIGHT?

NO!

I'M FUH-FINE!

HNNNHHHH!

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THEM!

DON'T LEAVE THEM IN *DARKNESS* OR THEY'LL PUH-*PANIC!*

KREEEEK

KEEP THE LIGHT ON THEM AND KEEP TALKING TO *ME!*

DID JONAH KN-*KNOW* YOU AT ALL?

NOT REALLY. HE WAS OLD ENOUGH TO *RECOGNIZE* ME...BUT I'VE BEEN LIVING OUTSIDE THE *COUNTRY* SINCE HE WAS A *CHILD.*

I FINALLY MOVED BACK TO *NEW YORK* ABOUT A *YEAR* AGO. THAT'S HOW I ENDED UP ON THIS *JURY*--FOR THE FIRST TIME IN *DECADES,* I WAS A *LOCAL* AGAIN.

KEEP *PULLING,* SPIDER-MAN. JUST A FEW MORE *FEET...*

SO DOES YOUR SON KNOW YOU'RE *HOME?*

NO. I WAS GOING TO--

NNN--NNGH!

OKAY, SORRY TO *INTERRUPT--*

--BUT I NEED *EVERYONE* TO *START CLIMBING. HURRY!*

GLAD TO *OBLIGE.*

DON'T TRY ANYTHING *FUNNY,* SHOCKER! YOU'RE NOT GOING *ANYWHERE* IN THE *DARK!*

RELAX, OLD MAN! I REMEMBER SEEIN' A TOOLBOX UP HERE SOMEWHERE, AND--

HURRY!

KLIK

AH-HA!

YOW.

MY GOD...

I SAID HURRY!

WELL?
JUST ONE MORE SECOND!
OKAY, THEN, SPIDEY...BRACE YOURSELF...BRACE YOURSELFFFF--
SQUEEE!
GHAAAAH!
OH, MAN, YOU DO NOT GET USED TO ANY OF THAT...
HAPPY LANDINGS, YOU SQUIRMY LITTLE UH-OH.

SPLSSH SPLSSH

WATER'S RISING. *FAST.*

SHOCKER, YOU LEAD THE WAY *OUT*-- BUT I'M STAYING *RIGHT BEHIND YOU,* SO WATCH YOUR *STEP!*

AND JAMESON, STICK *CLOSE!* IF I GET YOU OUTTA HERE *SAFE AND SOUND,* AS IS THE *PLAN,* THAT JERKWIT SON OF YOURS IS GONNA HAVE TO SWALLOW *EVERY LAST BAD THING* HE EVER *SAID* ABOUT ME--

--AND I AM *NOT ABOUT* TO PASS UP *THAT* OPPORTUNITY!

SLSSSHH SLSSSHH SLSSSHH

SLSSSHH SLSSSHH SLSSSHH

SLSSSHH SLSSSHH SLSSSHH

SHOULDN'T WE BE IN *CONNECTICUT* BY NOW?

GOD, YOU TALK A LOT.

HEY, *GOOD NEWS.* SEE THAT *UP AHEAD?*

LOOKS LIKE A *RESCUE TEAM* COMIN' TO *MEET* US.

THERE IT *IS*, WEBHEAD. *SALVATION* FOR THE *WHOLE GROUP.* WOW...

SPIDER-SENSE *TINGLING!* WHY--?

NO! SHOCKER'S *GAUNTLET--!*

...YOU WERE *SO* CLOSE...

KLIK

FA-CHOOM!

IT'S BOOBY-TRAPPED!

HE SEALED US *OFF* AGAIN...!

AND GOT *AWAY.* BUT AT LEAST I AVOIDED THE "*WE'LL MEET AGAIN, SPIDER-MAN!*" SPEECH.

NOW, LOOK *UP.*

IT'S *CIRQUE DE SOGGY* TIME, FOLKS! JUST CALL ME THE *AMAZING LADDER-MAN,* AND *PLEASE,* AS *ALWAYS*-- BE *CAREFUL* WHAT YOU *GRAB!*

CLIMB!

NATURAL *LIGHT.* A *SEWER GRATE* AT *STREET LEVEL*-- AND RIGHT IN THE NICK OF TIME.

PICK UP THE *PACE*, PEOPLE!

THAT'S *ALL* OF THEM, SPIDER-MAN!

YOU LET *EVERYONE ELSE* GO *FIRST?*

THIS IS *SO CONFUSING* FOR ME! I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY *LIKED* ANYONE NAMED "JAMESON" BEFORE!

LET ME GET THIS LAST GUY TO THE *GRATE* AND I'LL PULL YOU *RIGHT UP!*

JAMESON, YOU STILL *WITH* ME?

JAMESON?

JAMESON!

AW, NO...

...NO, NO, NO...

HHUUOHHH!

+SPPPPTT+

--AND IT SEEMS LIKE--YES, THE JURORS HAVE *MADE THEIR WAY TO SAFETY!* RESCUE WORKERS, REPORTERS AND LOVED ONES ARE HERE TO *GREET* THEM, AND--

WAIT! CAMERAMAN, *ZOOM IN!* IS THAT--?

F.D.N.Y

IT IS! LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, SPIDER-MAN IS SOMEHOW INVOLVED IN THIS CATASTROPHE!

STAY TUNED AS WE TRY TO GET A LIVE INTERVIEW WITH THE WEB-SPINNER HIMSELF!

FAT CHANCE!

I'M NOT THE STORY HERE, BUB!

DON'T GO ANYWHERE, MR. JAMESON! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

HEY, JUNIOR! JUNIOR, JUNIOR, JUNIOR!

YOU!

ME! CAN THE VITRIOL, JUNIOR! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YEARS TO SAY THIS! READY?

YOU, SIR, OWE ME ONE!

WHAT ARE YOU BLATHERING ABOUT?

THERE'S SOMEONE I WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO, JJJJ!

SAY HELLO TO THE ONE, THE ONLY--

NO STANDING

?
HEY, WHERE'D HE GO?
OH, MAN! HE TOOK A POWDER--
HANDS IN THE AIR, SPIDER-MAN! YOU'RE WANTED FOR QUESTIONING!
STOP HIM!
--AND UNLESS I WANT TO END UP WEARING ORANGE, I'D BETTER FOLLOW SUIT!
WEIRD THAT JAMESON DIDN'T STICK AROUND. AH, WELL...GUESS HE'LL MAKE PEACE WITH JUNIOR AT HIS OWN PACE.
"JUNIOR." HEH.
AT LEAST HE'S ALIVE. I LET THE SHOCKER SLIP, BUT I MANAGED TO SAVE A DOZEN OTHERS BY BEING IN THE RIGHT PLACE. THERE'S THAT.
ALL THINGS CONSIDERED...
F.D.N.Y.
AMBULANCE
"...I GUESS YOU COULD CALL THAT A LUCKY DAY."
The End.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #580

CELL PHONES DRIVE ME CRAZY!

THERE I WAS, HAVING A NICE CHAT WITH MY AUNT FROM 'WAY ACROSS TOWN, AND ALL OF A SUDDEN, THE SIGNAL STARTS CUTTING OUT--

--AT THE *WORST* POSSIBLE TIME!

AUNT MAY? YOU'RE BREAKING UP! SAY AGAIN--?

FILL IN the BLANK

ROGER STERN
WRITER

LEE WEEKS
ARTIST

DEAN WHITE
COLORIST

VC'S CORY PETIT
LETTERER

TOM BRENNAN
ASST. EDITOR

STEPHEN WACKER
EDITOR

TOM BREVOORT
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JOE QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SPIDER-MAN BRAINTRUST--
GALE, GUGGENHEIM & SLOTT

I SAID THE BANK IS BEING *ROBBED!*

LINE STARTS HERE

BY THAT *BLANK MAN* I SAW ON *YOUTUBE.*

"BLANK"--?

KEEP OUT OF SIGHT! STAY SAFE!

I'LL HANG UP AND CALL 9-1-1--!

BLAM

AUNT MAY?!

I-I'M ALL RIGHT. BUT A GUARD'S BEEN SHOT!

PETER...?

TOLD YA I WAS BULLETPROOF--

--YOU'RE LUCKY THAT RICOCHET DIDN'T KILL YA!

OH...!

HERE YA GO, GRANDMA.

GO AHEAD, CALL THE COPS. I DON'T CARE!

"GRANDMA"?! THE NERVE--!

I AM NO RELATION TO YOU!

YEAH, WHATEVER.

EXIT ONLY

AFTER I FIRST BECAME SPIDER-MAN, I SCREWED UP BADLY. AND MY UNCLE BEN DIED...BECAUSE OF ME.

NOTHING IS GOING TO HARM MY AUNT MAY...

...NOTHING AND NO... ONE...?!

WHAT THE DEVIL IS *THIS?!*

METROBANK

316

HUH? *SPIDER-MAN?!*

I KNOW WHO *I* AM. WHO ARE *YOU*-- GRAY GUY? HALF-TONE THE FACELESS WONDER?

YOU DON'T KNOW? I'M *THE BLANK!*

THE BLANK... OF **COURSE** HE IS.

NO STANDING OR LOITERING

DROP THE MONEYBAG--*NOW!* AND PRAY THAT NO ONE IN THAT BANK WAS HURT!

YOU THREATENING ME? *ME?!*

THAT'S RIGHT, DeNIRO, "I'M TALKIN' TO YOU!"

THWAP

THWAP

HEY--!

NOW, DON'T TRY ANYTHING FOOLISH. I'M *REALLY* NOT IN THE MOOD.

THIS JUNK WON'T STOP ME!

BDAM

HE PULLS AWAY MY WEBBING AND JUST SHOOTS IT OFF HIS GUN?!

WHAT'S THIS GUY MADE OF? TEFLON?

WUDD

AT LEAST A PUNCH DOESN'T SLIDE OFF HIM. BUT HIS BACKSIDE MUST BE AS SLICK AS HIS HEAD...

...LOOK AT 'IM GO! HE'S SLIDING-- AW, NO!

HONK HONK!

THIS IS NOT GOING AT *ALL* WELL.

BUT I DIDN'T HEAR A THUD OR A CRUNCH WHEN THE BUS PASSED OVER HIM. MAYBE...

NOTHING. HE'S SLIPPERY IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.

NO SIGN OF HIM TOPSIDE, EITHER.

'SCUSE ME! DID ANYONE SEE A MAN RUNNING-- OR MAYBE SLIDING-- AWAY FROM THIS BUS? HE'S ALL *GRAY*...

...NO DISTINGUISHING FEATURES.

THE BLANK-FACED ONE? HE RAN THAT WAY!

THANKS!

MAY ALL YOUR FARES BE BIG TIPPERS!

NICE TO RUN INTO SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T ACT LIKE I'M PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE--

--UNLIKE MOST OF MY ADORING PUBLIC--

--WHICH OBVIOUSLY BELIEVES TOO MUCH OF WHAT THEY READ IN THE TABLOIDS...

LOOK-- *SPIDER-MAN!*

HE'S STILL AT LARGE?

WHY DOESN'T SOMEBODY *DO* SOMETHING ABOUT HIM?

I WON'T GET MUCH HELP FROM THEM.

NO SIGN OF BLANK-BOY ANYWHERE. IS HE A QUICK-CHANGE ARTIST?

IF HE SLIPPED INTO THAT SUBWAY, HE COULD BE ANYWHERE BY NOW.

THIS IS GETTING ME NOWHERE FAST.

BETTER DOUBLE-BACK...

...RETRIEVE MY STREET CLOTHES...

...AND CHECK ON AUNT MAY!

THANKS FOR YOUR COOPERATION, MRS. PARKER. IF YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING ELSE, ANYTHING AT ALL...

I'LL BE SURE TO CALL YOU, AGENT DONOVAN.

HEY--

--THIS IS A *CRIME SCENE*--

AUNT MAY!

PETER!

--YOU CAN'T JUST--!

IT'S OKAY, RAFFERTY... HE HASN'T COMPROMISED ANYTHING.

I KNOW THIS MAN--BACK FROM WHEN I WAS ON THE FORCE.

RAY DONOVAN? HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE I WORKED FOR THE *DAILY GLOBE.*

YOUR AUNT'S FREE TO GO, PARKER. GO ON, TAKE HER HOME.

ACTUALLY, I MUST GET TO WORK. THANK YOU AGAIN, AGENT DONOVAN.

YEAH, THANKS.

PETE FIRST WORKED FOR THE DAILY GLOBE WAAAY BACK IN FANTASTIC FOUR #207 --NINE-YEAR-OLD STEPHEN WACKER.

The Plaza Hotel.
FIFTH AVENUE AT CENTRAL PARK SOUTH.
WOW... WHAT A *RUSH!*
BEEN A LONG TIME--
--SINCE I HAD TO THROW DOWN WITH A COSTUME.
AND *SPIDER-MAN,* NO LESS!
I TOOK A PUNCH FROM SPIDER-MAN--AND I DIDN'T EVEN *FEEL* IT!
IT WAS RISKY, COMING TO NEW YORK--
--BUT YA GOTTA FOLLOW THE MONEY. AND, BABY, *DID* I!
BROTHER CLYDE IS LIVIN' LARGE!
AND ANYBODY WHO TRIES TO STOP ME...IS JUST GONNA DRAW A *BLANK!*
HAH-HAH-HA!

The Coffee Bean.
WHERE MANHATTAN GETS CAFFEINATED.
SINCE 1952
AUNT MAY'S BEEN THROUGH SO MUCH IN HER LIFE. SHE SHOULDN'T HAVE TO GO THROUGH A BANK ROBBERY.
beep-a-deep beep-a-deep
AND WEIRDOES LIKE THE BLANK SHOULDN'T BE GIVING SPIDER-MAN THE SLIP.
HELLO.
ROBBIE! WHAT'S UP?
Front Line.
NEW YORK'S FEISTIEST NEWSPAPER.
ONE OF OUR STRINGERS REPORTED THAT YOUR AUNT WAS AT THE METROBANK BRANCH ROBBED THIS MORNING. SHE'S ALL RIGHT, I HOPE.
SHE IS, ROBBIE. IN FACT, SHE'S TAKING IT BETTER THAN I AM.
MAY'S A STRONG WOMAN, PETER. I UNDERSTAND SPIDER-MAN SHOWED UP?
SO I'M TOLD. HE GOT THERE AND WAS GONE BEFORE I ARRIVED--
--SO I DIDN'T GET ANY PIX OF HIM OR THIS BLANK CHARACTER. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON HIM THAT ISN'T ALREADY ON *GOOGLE?*
THE BLANK? JUST THAT THE FBI IS TAKING HIM VERY SERIOUSLY. THEY'VE PROMISED MORE INFORMATION AT AN AFTERNOON NEWS BRIEFING.
THE FBI... RIGHT!
SAY, ROBBIE... WHEN IS THAT BRIEFING?

TWO O'CLOCK. GOT IT. I'M ON MY WAY.

COFFEE REGULAR, NO SUGAR-- RIGHT?

EH? YOU HAVE A GOOD MEMORY, PARKER.

YOU, TOO, DONOVAN. THANKS FOR STANDING UP FOR ME BACK AT THE BANK.

SO, YOU'RE FBI NOW?

YEAH. BUREAU HAD ME IN DALLAS AT FIRST. GLAD TO FINALLY BE BACK IN THE CITY.

HEY, WHAT'S THE STORY ON THIS BLANK GUY? I HEAR SPIDER-MAN'S WEBS CAN'T STICK TO HIM.

NOT SURPRISED. OUR TECHIES THINK HE HAS A PERSONAL *FORCE FIELD*-- NOTHING GETS THROUGH IT BUT AIR.

THAT KIND OF POWER AND HE ROBS BANKS?

EVEN WORSE, HE'S BECOME A FOLK HERO...

...SEEMS THAT A LOT OF THE BANKS HE ROBBED WERE MAJOR PREDATORY LENDERS. AND WHEN SECURITY CAM FOOTAGE LEAKED OUT--

--PRESTO! INSTANT ROBIN HOOD! NOT THAT I'VE HEARD OF HIM GIVING TO THE POOR.

UNBELIEVABLE!

I KNOW. LOOK, I'M ON MY WAY TO A NEWS BRIEFING ON THE CASE. YOU WANT TO TAG ALONG?

AFTER WHAT THAT CREEP PUT MY AUNT THROUGH? OH, YEAH...

"...I WANT TO LEARN ALL ABOUT THIS GUY."

...THE BUREAU HAS BEEN TRACKING THE BLANK FOR SEVERAL MONTHS--

TRACK AWAY, BOZOS.

--AS HE'S MADE HIS WAY ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

AGENT FREEMAN, IS THE BLANK A MUTANT?

THERE IS NO EVIDENCE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE NATURE OF HIS POWER ARE ON-GOING...

GUESS ALL YOU WANT--YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW IT WORKS!

EVEN I DON'T KNOW COMPLETELY...

"...IT WAS JUST PURE LUCK THAT I CROSSED PATHS WITH THAT SCIENCE GEEK. POOR GUY BENT MY EAR ABOUT HOW HIS NEW DISCOVERY WAS GONNA MAKE HIM A FORTUNE...

"...JUST BEFORE HE STEPPED IN FRONT OF A SPEEDING CAR.

"IT TOOK ME MONTHS TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO POWER UP THE GEAR FROM HIS BRIEFCASE. BUT ONCE I DID, I KNEW THAT NO COP ALIVE COULD STOP ME!"

THE BLANK FIRST CAME TO OUR NOTICE WHEN HE HELD UP A BRANCH OF THE PACIFIC BANK IN LOS ANGELES--

--AND, DESPITE THE INTERVENTION OF WONDER MAN, MADE OFF WITH 75,000 DOLLARS.

IN ISSUE #2 OF THE WEST COAST AVENGERS MINI-SERIES --14-YEAR-OLD WACKER

THAT WAS A SWEET JOB.

AFTER THE AVENGERS INTERVENED IN HIS ROBBERY OF AN ARMORED CAR--

--THE BLANK FORMED A BRIEF ALLIANCE WITH THE SUPER-CRIMINAL GRAVITON...

IN W.C.A #3 --14-YEARS-AND-ONE-MONTH-OLD WACKER

"ALLIANCE"? HE TREATED ME LIKE A STOOGE! AND THEN, HE HIT ME WITH HIS DAMN GRAVITY WAVE--

--AND THREW ME OUT TO SEA!

"I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO GRAVITON, BUT I HOPE HE'S *BURNING IN HELL!*

"I NEARLY *DROWNED* BEFORE I WASHED ASHORE ON *CATALINA*. AND THAT *STILL* WASN'T THE WORST OF IT.

"THAT ENERGY-TOSS SCRAMBLED THE NANOTECH OF MY FORCE-FIELD BELT...AND SCRAMBLED MY CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM."

IT'S ALL ONE AND THE SAME NOW.

...EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE BLANK BEGAN MAKING HIS WAY ACROSS THE COUNTRY, ROBBING BANKS AND ARMORED CARS ALONG THE WAY.

I DON'T WANT TO BE THE BLANK 24/7. BUT EVERY DAY, IT'S HARDER TO CONTROL THE FIELD-EFFECT. THERE'S A DOCTOR WHO SAYS HE CAN HELP ME--

--BUT IT'LL TAKE A *LOT* MORE CASH.

WELL, AS NEWS BRIEFINGS GO, THAT CERTAINLY WAS *BRIEF*. THE MOST IMPORTANTQUESTION IS STILL UNANSWERED...

SO, WHAT'S THE NEXT MOVE? JUST HOW DO YOU INTEND TO CATCH THE BLANK?

THAT'S BUREAU BUSINESS, AND WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

I'M ON IT, DEREK.

PARKER, COME WITH ME!

BUT I NEED TO KNOW--!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW IS THAT WE'RE DOING EVERYTHING WE CAN.

THAT'S IT? THAT'S *ALL* I GET?!

THAT FACELESS CREEP MIGHT'VE KILLED MY AUNT!

HE'S A MENACE! A REAL--!

YOU'RE *OUT OF BOUNDS*, PARKER!

I KNOW YOU'RE *UPSET*, BUT WE CAN'T DISCLOSE ANYTHING MORE.

NOW GO HOME AND *COOL OFF!*

PETE...TRUST ME...WE'LL BRING THE BLANK TO JUSTICE.

YEAH! SEE THAT YOU DO.

AND I'LL SEE WHAT *I* CAN DO.

THE FBI IS GOOD AT A LOT OF THINGS-- AND DONOVAN'S A CAPABLE GUY--BUT WHEN IT COMES TO CATCHING SUPER-CROOKS, I THINK I HAVE A BIT OF AN EDGE.

I KNOW I HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY.

LET'S SEE... WEB-SHOOTERS FULLY LOADED.

KLIK

MASK FRESHLY LAUNDERED AND MINTY FRESH.

WELL, LAUNDERED ANYWAY.

STREET CLOTHES PACKED TO GO.

OKAY...

...LET'S GO CATCH A "FOLK HERO."

FOLK HERO! AND I GET BLAMED FOR EVERYTHING SHORT OF *GLOBAL WARMING!*

I DON'T LIKE ARMED ROBBERS IN GENERAL, BUT THE BLANK MADE A SERIOUS MISTAKE WHEN HE PICKED AUNT MAY'S BANK.

AUNT MAY AND UNCLE BEN WERE THE ONLY PARENTS I KNEW. MY MOM AND DAD FLEW OFF TO SERVE THEIR COUNTRY WHEN I WAS JUST A FEW MONTHS OLD... THEY NEVER MADE IT BACK.

THE BLANK IS *NOT* GETTING AWAY FROM ME AGAIN. EVEN IF I HAVE TO SEARCH EVERY BOROUGH IN THIS CITY...

...I'M GOING TO FIND HIM.

UH-HUH...

...RIGHT ON SCHEDULE.

WOKT

DON'T TRY TO BE A HERO...

FSSSS

GAS? LET ME GUESS...

..."LET'S GET SET FOR THE BIG, BAD BLANK!"

SMART IDEA--

--BUT I'M PREPARED, TOO!

AND MY GAS MASK FITS SNUGGER THAN YOURS!

--SNUGGER THAN YOURS!

WE HAVE A HIT! CAR 27--26TH AND MADISON!

26TH AND MADISON--GOT IT!

CLEVER PLAN.

MOVE OUT! ALL UNITS CONVERGE...!

PROCOPIO PRIORITY SHIPPING (212) 555-8684

THE FBI KNEW THAT THE BLANK ALTERNATES BETWEEN HITTING BANKS AND ARMORED CARS--

--PLUS, THEY KNEW THAT THE BLANK'S FIELD HAD TO PASS GAS--AND FOR ONCE I'LL AVOID THE OBVIOUS JOKE--OR HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO BREATHE.

FBI

BUT FROM THE SOUND OF THAT TRANSMISSION...

I'M BLANK-*FACED*, NOT BLANK-*HEADED*--SUCKERS!

HAH-HAH-HA!

I BET THERE'S CLOSE TO A MILLION IN THIS ROLLING PIGGY BANK!

NO SIGN OF PURSUIT YET. GOOD.

JUST A FEW MORE BLOCKS AND I'LL BE ABLE TO--!

SCRREEEEECH

GAHH!

WHAT THE HELLT IS COVERING THE WINDSHIELD?!

WHAT THE @#%'S GOING ON--?!

HEY IN THERE! WATCH THE MOUTH OR I'LL PUT YOU ON A 7-SECOND DELAY!

AW, IT TIPPED RIGHT OVER!

YOU? AGAIN?!

ME! AGAIN!

BDAM DAM DAM

HOLD IT!

LET'S NOT HAVE ANY COLLATERAL DAMAGE! YOU'RE IN ENOUGH TROUBLE AS IT IS!

SON-OF-A--!

"GUN," RIGHT?

TELL ME YOU WERE GOING TO SAY "GUN."

I MEAN, THINK OF THE CHILDREN.

KLIK KLIK

WHA--?

HE SLIPPED OUT OF MY GRIP!!

SON-OF-A --!

HEY! WATCH WHERE--!

I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE I'M GOING!

PARKING OR STANDING

BRUNK

OH, NO!

I HAD TO TELL HIM TO THINK OF THE CHILDREN.

HIYA, KIDS!

GOT YOUR NOSE!

=OOF=

HEE-HEE-HEE-HEE!

CUT *THAT* A LITTLE CLOSER THAN I LIKE.

YOU-- YOU *SAVED* US.

BUT... I'VE READ SUCH HORRIBLE THINGS ABOUT YOU!

WHAT CAN I SAY?

I'M JUST A VICTIM OF MEDIA BIAS.

EXCUSE ME--

"--THERE'S A MAN I NEED TO SEE."

WHU--?

NO, THE WORD YOU WANT IS "WHO"--

--AS IN "WHO CUT OFF MY ESCAPE?"

THAT WOULD BE ME!

DON'T YOU EVER *LEARN?* YOUR WEB WON'T STICK TO ME!

DOESN'T HAVE TO STICK--

EH--?

--IF IT GOES ON *THICK!*

THICK, I SAY, THICK ENOUGH TO *ENVELOP!*

READY FOR MY CLOSE-UP!

KLIK-WHRR KLIK-WHRR

CORDON OFF THE NEIGHBORHOOD. HE CAN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR!

UH, SIR...?

WHAT DO YOU CALL *THAT?*

?

LEMME OUTTA HERE! LEMME OUT!!

A NOTE--?

"CONTENTS: *ONE BLANK*--COURTESY OF YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN!"

HEY, DONOVAN--

--SMILE!

...YEAH, I SAW SPIDER-MAN SWING BY AND GOT HERE JUST IN TIME TO CATCH IT ALL. PHOTOGRAPHER'S LUCK.

OKAY. BUT ONE THING I CAN'T FIGURE OUT...

...HOW DID SPIDER-MAN BEAT US TO HIM?

POLICE

WHO KNOWS? HEY, YOU GOT SOME SCHMUTZ ON YOUR LAPEL. THERE...

...I GOT IT.

YOUR NETWORK GAVE ME A HEAD START, RAY...

...AND THE *SPIDER-TRACER* I SLIPPED UNDER YOUR LAPEL DURING OUR SHOVING MATCH THIS AFTERNOON HELPED ME KEEP TABS ON *YOU*.

JUST ONE THING LEFT TO DO...

PARDON ME, PRETTY LADY--

FEAST PROJECT
FOOD EMERGENCY AID
SHELTER AND TRAINING
387

--BUT AREN'T YOU THE INTREPID VOLUNTEER WHO TENDS TO THE SICK, SHELTERS THE HOMELESS, AND STANDS UP TO NEFARIOUS SUPER-VILLAINS?

PETER? WHATEVER ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

I JUST THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO SEE THE LATEST NEWS-- YOUR ARCH-ENEMY HAS BEEN APPREHENDED!

FRONT LINE
BLANK FILLED IN!

WELL!

AND HERE I DIDN'T EVEN REALIZE I *HAD* AN ARCH-ENEMY.

I WONDER WHO RISKED LIFE AND LIMB TO GET THAT PICTURE? ANYONE I MIGHT BE RELATED TO?

C'EST MOI, M'LADY. BUT IT WAS TAKEN WITH A TELEPHOTO LENS FROM A SAFE DISTANCE--HONEST!

BESIDES, WHO WAS IT THAT ONCE TOLD ME "*A PERSON NEEDS GUMPTION*" AND "*PARKERS ARE TOUGHER THAN PEOPLE THINK*"?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT-- IT WAS *YOU!*

PETER PARKER, YOU ARE INCORRIGIBLE!

AND I FEEL TERRIBLE ABOUT THAT. WHY DON'T YOU LET ME MAKE AMENDS?

YOU'VE BEEN HELPING TO FEED THE HUNGRY ALL DAY--WHAT DO YOU SAY I TAKE YOU TO *LUCATELLI'S* FOR SOME SHRIMP *FRA DIAVOLO?*

THAT SOUNDS LOVELY, PETER. BUT ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN AFFORD...?

I'M SURE. I'VE ALREADY BEEN PAID FOR THAT PIC. DINNER IS ON THE BLANK!

IN THAT CASE, DEAR-- LEAD ON!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #581

THERE WAS A REASON YOURS TRULY, PETER BENJAMIN PARKER, ALWAYS MADE MIDTOWN HIGH'S HONOR ROLL...

I WORKED FOR IT. I STUDIED MY BRAINS OUT. AND ANYTIME SOMEONE THREW A POP QUIZ OR A TRICK QUESTION MY WAY...

...I WAS THE GUY WITH ALL THE ANSWERS.

TODAY? NOT SO MUCH.

SERIOUSLY, I'VE GOT DANGLING THREADS ALL OVER THE PLACE. IT'S KILLING ME.

MENACE, MR. NEGATIVE, THE SPIDER-TRACER KILLER...

MIND ON FIRE

PART ONE: THE TROUBLE WITH HARRY

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GALE, GUGGENHEIM & SLOTT
SPIDER-MAN BRAINTRUST

DON'T GET ME *STARTED* ON THE TRACER KILLER. THAT, RIGHT THERE, THAT'S GOTTA STOP!

FIFTH PRECINCT, SERGEANT BAYERMAN SPEAKING, HOW CAN I...?

WHAT?! WHAT'S YOUR LOCATION, SIR?

ALL CARS, PICK UP. WE GOT A CALL-IN. SECOND STREET OFF AVENUE A. SOMEONE'S SPOTTED SPIDER-MAN DUMPING ONE OF HIS VICTIMS!

I WANT A UNIT DOWN THERE *NOW!!*

SOME WHACKJOB'S MURDERING PEOPLE, LEAVING MY SPIDER-TRACERS ON 'EM, AND NOW EVERYONE THINKS I'M SOME KINDA SERIAL KILLER!

ME, YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN. CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT? I'M THE GOOD GUY!

KNOW HOW YOU CAN TELL? I WEAR PRIMARY COLORS. SEE? RED AND BLUE.

BAD GUYS WEAR GREEN AND PURPLE. *EVERYBODY* KNOWS THAT! THAT'S THE RULE. THERE WAS A MEMO.

CROWE

WHOA! SPIDER-SENSE TINGLING...

AND NOT JUST *ANY* KIND OF TINGLING. THAT'S THE FREQUENCY OF ONE OF MY SPIDER-TRACERS!

I KNEW IT! I JUST KNEW IF I KEPT PATROLLING I'D PICK UP A SIGNAL SOONER OR...

...LATER. *BLAST IT.*

I'M SORRY, LADY, WHOEVER YOU ARE. I KNOW IT'S NO CONSOLATION, BUT I'M GETTING CLOSER. THIS TIME I--

WAIT. *THIS TIME* HE TURNED THE TRACER *ON.* EVERY OTHER TIME IT WAS *INACTIVE.* WHY WOULD HE--?

WEEOOOWEEEEOOWEEOO

SPIDER-MAN, FREEZE!

STAY WHERE YOU ARE OR WE WILL BE FORCED TO OPEN--

BLANG BLANG BLANG

DAMN, HE'S FAST!

ALL UNITS, SPIDER-MAN HEADING NORTH ON AVENUE A!

M5

IT'S HIM! I HAVE POSITIVE I.D. THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!

SPIDER-MAN IS THE TRACER KILLER...

...BET YOUR LIFE ON IT!

I'D TAKE THAT BET. AND RAISE YOU ONE POLICE SCANNER.

ASM S81 4

STUPID! STUPID! STUPID! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME? IT'S LIKE I WAS BITTEN BY A *RADIOACTIVE MORON!*

OF ALL THE-- "WAIT. THIS TIME HE LEFT IT ON. WHY WOULD HE DO THAT?"

DERRRRR.

RRRING RRRING

FROM NOW ON THEY SHOULD JUST PUT UP A SIGN: "*THIS WAY TO GET FRAMED.*" AND I'D GO.

'CAUSE I'M THE STUPIDEST STUPID PERSON IN STUPIDTOWN.

M.C. STUPID HERE. WHAT'S UP?

PETE?

OH. HEY, HARRY. DON'T ASK.

JUST CALLING TO SEE IF YOU'RE UP FOR A ROAD TRIP. I'M GOING OUT TO JERSEY TOMORROW TO SEE LIZ AND MY SON. AND, PAL...

...I'D REALLY APPRECIATE THE COMPANY. NOT TO MENTION SOME BACK-UP. LIZ ALWAYS LIKED YOU.

YOU KNOW WHAT, COUNT ME IN. I COULD USE A BREAK FROM BIG-CITY CRAZY ABOUT NOW. SO, WHEN ARE WE DOING THIS?

FIRST THING IN THE MORNING, WE'LL MEET...

"...OUTSIDE THE HOLLISTERS'."

HI...LILY. MR. HOLLISTER. CARLIE.

BILL, GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE OUT OF THE HOSPITAL. LOOKING GOOD, SIR.

THANKS, HARRY. IF YOU HAVE A MOMENT, THERE'S SOMETHING WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT.

HEY, PETE. LONG TIME, NO SEE.

CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS, *AL?* JUST WHEN PARKER WAS OFF CARLIE'S RADAR. I OUGHTA...

YOU OUGHTA WHAT? COP-BLOCK YOUR ROOMMATE? WHAT IS THIS, HIGH SCHOOL?

WE'RE ON DUTY, *VIN.* GUARDING OUR FUTURE MAYOR. FOCUS.

WHAT'S THE DEAL, PETE? IT'S LIKE YOU'VE BEEN AVOIDING US.

NO. NOT AT ALL. REALLY. FURTHEST THING FROM THE--

GOOD. SO WHY DON'T WE ALL GET TOGETHER. SAY FRIDAY?

SSSSURE. FRIDAY...

AS IN FRIDAY, FIRST OF *NEVER.* I CAN'T BE ANYWHERE NEAR *LILY HOLLISTER.* NOT SINCE SHE MADE THAT MOVE ON ME.

-NR

SHE'S *HARRY'S* GIRL. AND I AM *NOT* GOING DOWN *THAT* ROAD AGAIN.

DURING NEW WAYS TO DIE. -STEVE.

ACTUALLY, CARLIE, IF IT'S OKAY...

I WAS WONDERING IF *YOU* WANTED TO DO SOMETHING FRIDAY. JUST THE *TWO* OF US FOR A CHANGE.

REALLY?

SURE. WHY NOT? IT COULD BE--

PETE, COME OVER HERE FOR A SECOND.

I SEE WHAT'S GOING ON. BUT YOU DON'T, DO YOU?

LILY HOLLISTER AND I, WE MAY HAVE GROWN UP IN THE SAME HOUSE TOGETHER...

BUT WE'RE SO DIFFERENT.

AND I'M THE GOOD ONE. DEPENDABLE. RELIABLE. A BETTER DAUGHTER TO BILL THAN HIS OWN FLESH AND BLOOD. HERE IT IS, *WEEKS* BEFORE THE ELECTION...

AND ONE OF US IS OUT PARTYING EVERY NIGHT. AND THE OTHER'S DOING EVERYTHING SHE CAN TO SEE THAT BILL WINS THIS. GUESS WHO?

CARLIE, WAIT. I DIDN'T MEAN TO--

SAVE IT, PETE. ONE DAY YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT. AND UNTIL THEN, I'D RATHER BE ALONE THAN BE YOUR CONSOLATION PRIZE.

GOOD FOR HER.

YOU DO REALIZE SHE SAID SHE'D RATHER BE ALONE, RIGHT?

ONE STEP AT A TIME, AL.

...ACCORDING TO MY SOURCES, THAT RECENT OSCORP SCANDAL IS ABOUT TO BE LAID AT *YOUR* FEET.

WITH THE ELECTION SO CLOSE, IF THAT HAPPENS, WE'LL HAVE TO *DISTANCE* OURSELVES FROM YOU.

BY "*WE*", YOU MEAN *ALL* OF THE HOLLISTERS?

YES.

THEN I'LL MAKE IT GO AWAY. I PROMISE. AND, SIR, WHEN I GET BACK, WE'LL NEED TO HAVE *ANOTHER* TALK. A *SERIOUS* TALK.

UNDERSTOOD. GOOD LUCK, SON.

LILY, MY LOVE, ANY LAST WORDS BEFORE I VENTURE OUT INTO THE WORLD?

SURE, SWEETIE. SAY HI TO YOUR EX-WIFE FOR ME.

KISS KISS.

AND ON *THAT* NOTE...

WELL, THAT WENT OVER WELL.

LILY AND I... WE'VE JUST HIT A LITTLE BIT OF A ROUGH PATCH.

BUT I'M SURE THINGS WILL CLEAR UP ONCE I PUT THIS BUSINESS WITH LIZ BEHIND ME.

"BUSINESS WITH LIZ"? SO THIS ISN'T A SOCIAL CALL, IS IT?

IT'S A *GOOD* THING, PETE. REALLY. WE'RE GOING TO HELP HER OUT.

SHE'S BEEN...GOING THROUGH A ROUGH PATCH TOO. THERE'S SOME LEGAL ISSUES...

AND SOME PROBLEMS WITH HER BROTHER, MARK...

MARK? MARK RAXTON? TELL ME YOU'RE KIDDING.

HE'S NOT KIDDING. WE'RE OFF TO NEW JERSEY TO SEE LIZ ALLAN, HER SON...

...AND HER SUPER-VILLAIN STEPBROTHER.

PLEASE, YOU HAVE TO SEND SOMEONE OVER RIGHT AWAY. YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. MY STEPBROTHER HAS...

...VERY SPECIAL NEEDS.

ALLAN

THE LAST NURSE? YES, SHE WAS VERY QUALIFIED. NO, THAT WASN'T THE PROBLEM.

MOM? I WANNA PLAY SOLDIERS.

FINE. PLAY SOLDIERS.

WITH WHO? NO ONE'LL COME OVER ANYMORE.

LOOK, I AM PAYING YOUR SERVICE *GOOD* MONEY. A *LOT* OF IT! AND I THINK THAT ENTITLES ME TO A LITTLE--

MOMMM...

NOT *NOW*, NORMIE. MOMMIE'S ON THE PHONE.

BUT--

JUST PLAY BY YOURSELF FOR A WHILE, *OKAY?*

FIIIINE.

THE PROBLEM? I'LL TELL YOU WHAT THE PROBLEM WAS...

...YOUR *"TRAINED PROFESSIONAL"* TOOK ONE LOOK AT MARK AND WENT RUNNING OUT THE DOOR. YES. JUST NOW.

CAUTION

WSSHH

OOH.

FROM HIS TOP SECRET ARMY HEADQUARTERS, GENERAL OSBORN SENDS HIS MEN ON THEIR LATEST MISSION...

...IN THE HOTTEST DESERT TERRAIN KNOWN TO MAN.

COOL!

BLOORP

TTSS

WHA? WHASS GOIN' ON IN--?

OH NO.

LIIIIIZ!!!

MARK? WHAT'S THE MATTER? IS EVERYTHING ALL--

OH MY GOD!

NORMIE! GET AWAY FROM HIM!

OW! MOM, THAT'S TOO TIGHT!

THE BOYYY? IZZEE OKAYYY?!

HE'S FINE, MARK. WE'RE-- WE'RE ALL FINE.

I'M SAWRRRY, LIZ! I'M SO SAWRRRYYY!

"MARK RAXTON. YES, *THAT* MARK RAXTON..."

WE'RE ON OUR WAY TO SEE HIM RIGHT NOW. WELL, NOT *HIM* PER SE. BUT LIZ *IS* HARRY'S EX-WIFE...

...SO THAT MAKES RAXTON HARRY'S EX-STEPBROTHER-IN-LAW OR SOMETHING. NO, AUNT MAY, I'M *NOT* BEING GLIB.

I'LL PLAY IT SAFE. HOW SAFE? I'M USING A CELL PHONE *TWICE* THE RECOMMENDED DISTANCE FROM THE PUMPS. *THAT'S* THE SAFE-KINDA-GUY I AM.

STOP THAT. I DON'T WANT YOU TAKING THIS LIGHTLY, PETER. MOLTEN MEN ARE DANGEROUS.

REMEMBER WHAT THAT *OTHER* ONE, THAT AWFUL CHARLIE WEIDERMAN, DID TO OUR HOME HERE IN QUEENS?

WELL, OF COURSE YOU HAVE TO STAND BY HARRY. THAT'S A GIVEN. ESPECIALLY AFTER ALL HE'S DONE FOR OUR FAMILY.

JUST BE CAREFUL. AND HAVE A *VERY* SAFE TRIP.

BACK TO THE TURNPIKE?

IN A SEC. BEFORE YOU THROW ANY MORE SURPRISES MY WAY... LIZ *IS* EXPECTING US, RIGHT?

YEAH. SHE NEEDS SOME HELP WITH SOME... PAPERWORK.

PAPERWORK?

A HITCH IN MY LIFE INSURANCE POLICY.

WAIT. IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE *ALIVE* AGAIN, ISN'T IT?

MM. YEAH.

OH, DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT. WE'VE *TALKED* ABOUT IT.

THE BACK-FROM-THE-DEAD THING? NO.

WE'VE SKIRTED IT, SKIMMED IT, SKIPPED AROUND IT, AND, ON THE WHOLE, SKATED OVER IT.

YOU'VE SHOWN *ME* "PAPERWORK." SENT ME POSTCARDS FROM YOUR TIME IN "EUROPE." BUT...

BUT YOU WANT THE NITTY-GRITTY? FINE. LET'S DO THIS.

BUT GET READY FOR A SHOCK, PETE. BECAUSE THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ME...

I, HARRY OSBORN, WAS...*THE GREEN GOBLIN!* WELL, NOT *THE* GREEN GOBLIN. A GREEN GOBLIN. THE SECOND ONE.

I KNOW.

RIGHT. YOU'RE PALS WITH SPIDER-MAN.

YEP.

WHAT? IT'S HARD TO KNOW WHO KNOWS WHAT NOWADAYS.

TELL ME ABOUT IT.

LOOK, IT DOESN'T TAKE A BRAIN SURGEON TO FIGURE THIS OUT. I TOOK GOBLIN SERUM. IT WAS IN MY SYSTEM. IT BROUGHT ME BACK. MYSTERY SOLVED.

HOLD ON...

"...IT WAS THE SERUM THAT *KILLED* YOU. THAT'S *HOW* YOU DIED."

"WHAT? WHO TOLD YOU THAT?"

"SPIDER-MAN. HE SAID THAT *YOU* SAID, WITH YOUR *DYING WORDS.* THAT IT WAS POISONING YOU!"

YEAH. AND DO YOU KNOW *WHEN* I SAID THAT? WHEN I WAS *HIGH*. ON *GOBLIN SERUM*.

BUT... BUT YOU *DIED*.

RIGHT. THE SAME WAY MY FATHER--WHO *ALSO* TOOK GREEN GOBLIN SERUM--"*DIED*."

TOUCHÉ. OKAY...

"...SO HOW DID YOU PULL IT OFF?"

"THAT'S JUST THE THING, PETE. I DIDN'T...

"...SOMEONE ELSE TOOK CARE OF EVERYTHING."

HERE, THAT SHOULD MORE THAN COVER YOUR SERVICES.

THANK YOU, MR.--

NO NAMES. NOW LEAVE. BEFORE I SHOW YOU HOW EASY IT IS TO SWAP A BODY--OR TWO--IN THIS MORGUE.

THERE. WE'RE ALONE. JUST YOU, ME...

...AND THE BOY. YOU CAN COME OUT NOW.

WHAT A WASTE OF A PERFECTLY GOOD DRAMATIC ENTRANCE... ALL FOR AN AUDIENCE OF ONE.

STILL, YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR, OSBORN. AND WHEN YOU HIRED *MYSTERIO*, YOU GOT THE VERY BEST!

GOOD. SO YOU CAN DO THIS? SWITCH AUTOPSY REPORTS? AND GET A GENETIC DUPLICATE FOR THE COFFIN?

THE WORKS. BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO DO YOUR PART TOO, NORMAN. WHEN YOU DECIDE TO STEP BACK ON THE STAGE...

...YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO *SELL* THIS.

PERFORM DOUR GRAVESIDE VISITS. DROP MOVING REFERENCES TO YOUR DEAR, DEPARTED BOY.

CAN YOU DO THAT?

OF COURSE. YOU'VE REALLY THOUGHT THIS THROUGH, HAVEN'T YOU?

IT'S A SERVICE I SOMETIMES PROVIDE... FOR THOSE, LIKE YOU, WHO CAN AFFORD IT. BUT REMEMBER, THE LAST PART OF THIS IS UP TO YOU.

FOR THIS TO WORK, YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE BOY FAR AWAY FROM HERE. IN SHORT...

...YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE HIM DISAPPEAR.

FOR THE NEXT COUPLE YEARS, DAD HAD ME IN CLINICS ALL ACROSS EUROPE.

HE AND HIS "THERAPISTS" HAD ME CONVINCED THAT I'D HAD A DRUG RELAPSE, THAT I NEEDED TO DETOX...

...AND THAT WE HAD TO KEEP IT OUT OF THE AMERICAN PRESS.

Y'KNOW, THEY ACTUALLY HAD ME BELIEVING THAT MY DAYS AS THE GOBLIN WERE DRUG-INDUCED HALLUCINATIONS.

WHEN DID YOU...?

REMEMBER IT ALL? RECENTLY. WHEN I SAW MY DAD IN THAT... SUIT AGAIN. MOST OF IT CAME BACK. IN PIECES.

HOW... MUCH?

WHO KNOWS? THE IMPORTANT THING IS...

SINCE I'VE COME BACK, I'VE TRIED TO LIVE A BETTER LIFE--TRIED TO DO RIGHT BY MY FRIENDS--AND LOVED ONES.

LIKE WHAT YOU DID FOR ME AND AUNT MAY? WE'LL NEVER FORGET IT, HARRY...

"...YOU STANDING THERE, LARGE AS LIFE, AT OUR DOORSTEP IN FOREST HILLS.

"OR RATHER, OUR ***REBUILT*** DOORSTEP...ALONG WITH AN ENTIRE OSCORP CONSTRUCTION CREW.

"MY CHILDHOOD HOME. EVERY BRICK BACK IN PLACE. AUNT MAY AND I...WE CAN NEVER REPAY YOU FOR THAT, HARRY."

PETE, THAT WAS *NOTHING.* WAIT TILL YOU SEE THE SURPRISE I'VE GOT FOR *LIZ!*

WAIT. WHAT DO YOU MEAN--?

YOU'LL SEE. C'MON, WE'RE HERE.

LIZ! NORMIE! HEY, GUYS. LOOK WHO DADDY BROUGHT WITH HIM.

HEY, LIZ.

PETER! IT'S BEEN AGES! HOW ARE--

MOMMIE. I WANNA GO INSIDE!

HONEY? WHAT'S THE MATTER?

I WANNA GO *INSIDE!*

HERE. I'LL TAKE HIM. NORMIE, DO YOU WANT DADDY TO--

MOM!

HARRY, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? DON'T YOU GET IT? *YOU'RE* THE ONE FREAKING HIM OUT. PETER?

I GOT IT. HEY, REMEMBER YOUR UNCLE PETE?

MOMMIE, WILL BE RIGHT WITH YOU, HONEY.

PETE, THE PLAYROOM'S FIRST DOOR AT THE TOP OF THE STAIRS. OKAY?

I'M ON IT.

WONDERFUL. AND SUDDENLY I'M THE BAD GUY AGAIN.

HARRY, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? YOU *DIED* IN FRONT OF HIM. HE WENT TO YOUR FUNERAL. AND NOW YOU'RE BACK IN HIS LIFE AGAIN.

YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT BEING THE "*BAD GUY*"? YOU'RE LUCKY HE DOESN'T SEE YOU AS A BOOGEY MAN HIDING UNDER HIS BED.

NICE ONE, LIZ. PUT *THAT* IMAGE IN HIS HEAD.

GNNNN

EASY, NORMIE. THERE'S NO NEED TO GET UPSET. MOM AND DAD ARE JUST--

NO! HE'S JUST GONNA LEAVE AGAIN!

THAT'S ALL DADDY *EVER* DOES! HE COMES AND HE GOES AWAY. HE GOES AWAY ALL THE TIME.

WHY'D HE HAVE TO COME HOME? *I HATE HIM!*

DADDYYY?

DADDYYY'S HOME?

DEET - DEET - DEET - DEET - DEET - DEET

YOU KNOW, IF YOU CAME AROUND MORE OFTEN, HE WOULDN'T GET THAT WAY.

LIZ, YOU'VE MADE IT PERFECTLY CLEAR YOU DON'T WANT ME TO--

DO WE *HAVE* TO DO THIS OUTSIDE? WHY DON'T WE GO IN THE HOUSE?

YOU DON'T GET TO SAY "*THE HOUSE*," HARRY.

IT'S *MY* HOUSE. IT'S *NORMIE'S* HOUSE. IT'S OUR HOME. AND YOU--YOU'RE JUST VISITING.

GREAT. YOU TREAT ALL YOUR GUESTS LIKE THIS?

...

KIDDING. JUST KIDDING.

LOOK, NORMIE, I'M GONNA BE STRAIGHT WITH YOU. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE FEELING.

I HAD AN UNCLE WHO WAS *LIKE* MY DAD. AND ONE DAY HE...WENT AWAY, TOO.

AND IF HE EVER CAME BACK THE WAY YOUR DAD DID, I--

DID YOUR DAD GO AWAY 'CAUSE *YOU* DID SOMETHING BAD?

DID HE?

BOP

I GOT IT.

AW, NORMIE, YOU GOTTA BELIEVE ME, BUDDY. I PROMISE, YOU HAVEN'T DONE *ANYTHING* WRONG. NOT A SINGLE...

...THING.

A BOX OF SEVERED HEADS. CORRECTION: A BOX OF SEVERED ME-HEADS! WOW, THIS KID'S GOT *ISSUES!*

WONDER WHERE HE GETS *THAT* FROM?

LIZ, IF YOU'D JUST LET ME GET A *WORD* IN HERE--

I KNOW HOW TO FIX *EVERYTHING.*

WHAT? BY THROWING LOTS OF *MONEY* AT IT? THAT IS YOUR SOLUTION FOR *EVERYTHING,* ISN'T IT, HARRY?

HARRRYYY...

DE-DEET - DE-DEET - DE-DEET - DEDEET-

THE INSURANCE MONEY PAID FOR THIS HOUSE, MY BROTHER'S TREATMENTS, EVERYTHING! BUT YOU HAD TO GO AND--GO AND--

AHH! HARRY OSBORN! WHY CAN'T YOU JUST *DIE* LIKE A *NORMAL* PERSON?!!

OVERLOA
OVERLOA
OVERLOA

OVERLOAD

OZZBORN!

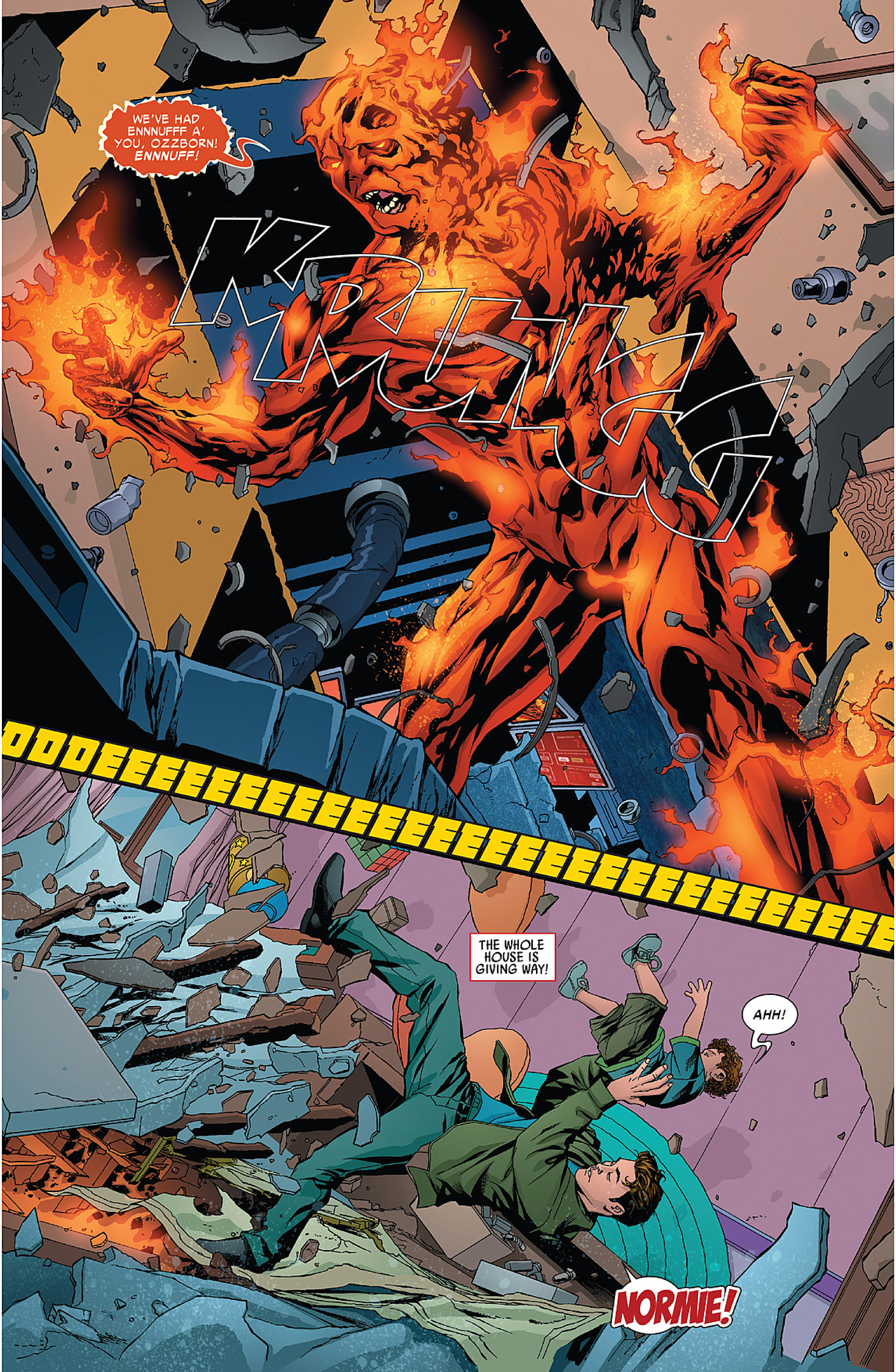
DANGER DANGER DANGER

GYEAUGHH!

YOW!

SPIDER-SENSE GOING OFF THE CHART!

EE-DEE-DEE-DEE-DEE-DEE-DEE-


WE'VE HAD ENNNUFFF A' YOU, OZZBORN! ENNNUFF!
KRUNG
ODDEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
THE WHOLE HOUSE IS GIVING WAY!
AHH!
NORMIE!

HOLD--

...ONLY IT'S NOT.

HALF A TON OF BATHROOM FIXTURES ARE RIGHT ON TOP OF US. SOME OF THE PIPES RUN TO THE FOUNDATION...

SPIDER-SENSE AND SPEED MAKE THIS SEEM LIKE IT'S ALL IN SLOW MOTION...

--ON!

...I CAN USE THAT. GET ENOUGH TRACTION, KICK OFF 'EM, AND...

I--

...I'M GOOD AND CLEAR.

--GOTCHA!

QUICK CHECK: NO CUTS, BUMPS, OR BRUISES. WE GOOD?
Y-YEAH. BUT HOW'D WE--?
I GUESS WE WERE JUST LUCKY. AND BEFORE THAT LUCK RUNS OUT, LET'S GET YOU SOMEWHERE SAFE.
UNCLE PETE, LOOK OUT! FIRE!
HARRRYY!
NO. THEY'RE *FOOTPRINTS.* AND THAT MEANS... OH BOY!
RAXTON! YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT LIKE THIS.
HURRRT MY FAMILYYY FORRR THE LAZT TIME OZZBORN!
TODAYYY YOU **DIE!** FORRR REAL!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #582

EVERY FAMILY HAS ITS SECRETS. TAKE HARRY AND LIZ:

HE USED TO BE A GREEN GOBLIN. PLUS HE'S KINDA BACK FROM THE DEAD.

YOU REALLY NEED TO CALM DOWN, MARK. THIS CAN'T BE GOOD FOR YOU.

THAT'SSS FUNNY. ADVICE FROMM A DEAD MANNN.

AND LIZ? HER BROTHER'S THE MOLTEN MAN. AND SHE WAS KEEPING HIM LOCKED UP IN A SPARE ROOM.

EASY, RAXTON. I KNOW--IN YOUR STATE--THIS MIGHT BE CONFUSING. BUT I WAS NEVER REALLY DEAD, I WAS--

YOU WILLL BEEE. FURR WHAT YOU PUT LIZ THROUGH...

I'M GONNA KILL YOU, OZZBORN! IF ITZZ THE LASST THING I DO!

MARK, STOP THIS! YOU'RE BURNING UP!

IF WE DON'T GET YOU BACK TO YOUR CONTAINMENT ROOM--

LIZ! MOVE!

MIND ON FIRE

PART TWO: BURNING QUESTIONS

PETE?!

THAT ROOM'S NOT THERE ANYMORE.

AND NEITHER'S MOST OF YOUR HOUSE!

AS FOR ME, GOOD OL' *UNCLE PETE?* I'VE GOT A SECRET, TOO.

C'MON, LET'S GET YOU AND NORMIE OUT OF HERE.

...BEFORE THE REST OF THIS PLACE COMES DOWN!

BUT WHAT ABOUT MARK? AND IF HE GETS A HOLD OF HARRY--

WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THAT *AFTER* WE GET YOUR SON CLEAR.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

OKAY, OUT THE BACK. I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU.

BUT PETER--

GO!

THAT'S TWO SAFE, ONE TO GO.

OH, RIGHT. *MY* SECRET? I'VE GOT THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH OF A SPIDER.

KTAM

WHAT'S *NOT* A SECRET: I'M A CERTIFIED GENIUS.

MARK! I CAN EXPLAIN--

REALLY. YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THE NUMBER OF CALCULATIONS I CAN DO ON THE FLY.

LIKE, SAY, THE WEIGHT DISTRIBUTION AND RELATIONSHIP...

...OF LOAD BEARING WALLS.

IN SUBURBAN HOMES.

IN NEW JERSEY.

SERIOUSLY. I SHOULD WRITE A THESIS ON IT.

AHH!

KCHKOOM

WELL THAT WAS...

...LUCKY.

MARK?

RAXTON? ARE YOU...?

YOU BETTERRR RRRUN, OZZBORN...

RRRUN!

LIZ, I DON'T WANT YOU TO ARGUE WITH ME. TAKE OFF. GET AS FAR AWAY AS YOU CAN.

I'M GOING TO GET HELP.

NOO! UNCLE PETE!

PETER, THAT'S CRAZY. WE SHOULD STICK TOGETHER. WE SHOULD--

LIZ! YOU KNOW I'M...FRIENDS WITH SPIDER-MAN. HE'S CLOSE BY. I CAN--

LOOK, I HAVE TO DO THIS!

UNCLE PETE? YOU'RE *FRIENDS* WITH HIM? HOW COULD YOU?!

NORMIE, SHUSH.

I HATE YOU!

JOIN THE CLUB.

WONDERFUL. THAT'S THREE FOR THREE IN THE OSBORN HATE COLUMN.

SPEAKING OF WHICH, I BETTER HURRY BEFORE THAT NUMBER GOES DOWN...

...IN FLAMES!

GENE, STOP THAT! JUST CALL 911!

THIS'S THE FIRE BUTTON. IT'S PRE-PROGRAMMED. THAT'S WHAT IT'S *FOR!*

WELL IT'S *NOT* WORKING! CALL 911!

I'M THROUGH!

OH! IT'S HER EX-HUSBAND! HE'S CLIMBING OUT THE WINDOW! THEY WERE FIGHTING EARLIER, IN THE YARD.

YOU DON'T THINK--? GENE, HAVE 'EM SEND THE POLICE TOO!

RWARR!

KRSH

GET 'EM OVER HERE! FIRE! POLICE! SEND THE *ARMY!*

SEND EVERYBODY!

KEYS, KEYS, KEYS...

BE-BOOP

NOT GETTIN AWAYYY FROM ME, HARRRRY.

BE-BEEP

MARK, I'M NOT TRYING TO--JUST WAIT.

I HAVE SOMETHING HERE. IN THE CAR. YOU HAVE TO TRUST ME.

NO! EVVVRY TIME WE DO THAT, WE GET BURRRNED.

NOWWW IT'S YOURRR TURRRN!

HEAR ME OUT. THAT'S NOT ME ANYMORE. I'VE CHANGED.

AND IF YOU GIVE ME A CHANCE, I CAN HELP YOU. I CAN SAVE THE--

DAMN IT.

WHAT ARE *YOU* DOING HERE?

C'MON! SPOILERS!

THANKS, OSBORN. WAY TO RUIN MY SNAZZY INTRO!

NOW MY TIMING'S OFF.

AND I HAD SOME REALLY GOOD PATTER READY TOO.

I WAS GONNA RIFF ON HOW GOLDEN BOY HERE LOOKS LIKE AN OSCAR.

AND THEN I WAS GOING TO THANK MY AGENT AND MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY.

BUT I'M JUST NOT FEELING IT N--

OW! HOT! HOT! HOT!

ANSWER ME! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN *NEW JERSEY*?!

SAVING YOU. DUH.

NO! I MEAN WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? ARE YOU STALKING ME OR SOMETHING?!

FINE! YOU WANNA GET YOURSELF OUT OF THIS *WITHOUT* MY HELP? BE MY GUEST, CHUCKLES!

OZZZBORN!

SCUSI.

GUHH!

SWAP

THERE. THAT SHOULD BUY US SOME--AH! SUNNUVA...

BURNING MY GLOVE!

GOTTA GET IT OFF BEFORE IT BURNS RIGHT THROUGH MY HAND!

DON'T THINK I'VE EVER FOUGHT MOLTEN MAN WHEN HE WAS THIS... MOLTEN-Y BEFORE.

PARKER!

WHAT?

YOU WERE THE CALL PETER MADE ON HIS CELL PHONE. THAT'S HOW YOU KNEW WE WERE ON OUR WAY TO SEE RAXTON! THAT'S WHY YOU'RE OUT HERE.

SSSURE. LET'S GO WITH THAT.

SO? WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

PLAN?

TO STOP RAXTON. YOU DO *HAVE* ONE, DON'T YOU?

...

PRESENTLY? NO.

GRRAHH!

WELL I DO.

KEEP HIM BUSY.

WORKIN' ON IT! NOW ABOUT THIS PLAN OF YOURS?

WORKING ON IT.

FOR SOME TIME NOW.

SMAK

ARRRH!

JANICE! WHAT IN GOD'S NAME ARE YOU DOING? WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!

ALLEYOOP.

THIS IS MY MOTHER'S TUDOR CHEST. I AM *NOT* LEAVING IT BEHIND. HELP ME GET IT IN THE CAR.

ARE YOU CRAZY? THE NEIGHBORHOOD'S GOING UP IN FLAMES! WE COULD DIE AT ANY MOMENT AND--

MR. BOONE!

AH! IT'S HER. IT'S THAT ALLAN WOMAN.

LIZ! DEAR, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

GENE. JANICE. I HATE TO DO THIS TO YOU, BUT I NEED YOU TO TAKE NORMIE WITH YOU.

PLEASE. THIS IS ALL COMING FROM YOUR HOUSE! YOU PEOPLE STARTED THIS. WHY SHOULD WE--

STOP IT, GENE. OF COURSE, WE'LL LOOK AFTER HIM, LIZ.

BE GOOD FOR THE BOONES, NORMIE. OKAY?

MOMMM.

LIZ, THERE'S PLENTY OF ROOM FOR YOU TOO.

NO.

I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING, BEFORE MY STEP-BROTHER KILLS MY EX...

OSCORP PROMETHEUS T-90

CH-CHAK

...OR VICE VERSA.

MOMMIE, DON'T GO!

MOMMIE WILL SEE YOU SOON, HONEY. NOW REMEMBER, BE GOOD.

GO AWAYYY, SPIDERRR-MAN!

THISS IZN'T YOURRR FIGHT! THISS ISS BETWEEN ME AN' OZZBORN!

SORRY, MOLTY. NO CAN DO. PULLING HARRY'S FAT OUT OF YOUR FIRE...

IT'S PART OF MY JOB DESCRIPTION. IT'S IN THE SPIDER-MAN MISSION STATEMENT AND EVERYTHING.

OSCORP PROMETHEUS X-90

ONLY GET ONE SHOT AT THIS...

IF ONLY THAT WEB-HEADED IDIOT WOULD STOP JUMPING IN THE WAY...

THEN AGAIN, HIS SPIDER-SENSE *WOULD* TELL HIM TO DUCK IN TIME, RIGHT? YEAH...

OKAY. LET'S DO THIS...

LIZ! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!

STOPPING MY INSANE GREEN GOBLIN/EX-HUSBAND FROM AIMING A GUN AT MY STEP-BROTHER!

REALLY, RAXTON? YOU'RE GONNA PUT ALL THIS ON HARRY?

THWIP-IP

BEAT IT, SPIDERRR. THIS AIN'T YOURRR FIGHT.

THAT GUYSSS BROUGHT NNNUTHIN BUT PAIN TO MY FAMILY.

AND THIS'SSS WHERE I END IT!

SO LIZ'S PROBLEMS HAVE *NOTHING* TO DO WITH, SAY...

LOOKING AFTER HER SICK BROTHER?

WHO ARE YOU *REALLY* MAD AT, MARK? THE MAN WHO TURNED HER INTO A WIDOW...

OR THE GUY THAT TURNED HER INTO A NURSE?

SSHUT UP! SSSHUT YOURRR DAMN MOUTH!

FWAK

AW. DON'T GO BEATING YOURSELF UP.

THAT'S MY DEPARTMENT.

YEARHH!

TOO SLOW, GOLDEN BOY. ME ON THE OTHER HAND? I FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY, STING LIKE A BEE...

WELL, MORE LIKE FLOAT LIKE A SPIDER, STING LIKE A SPIDER.

WHICH IS ODD, BECAUSE SPIDERS NEITHER FLOAT NOR STING.

SSTOP IT!

THE IRONIC THING IS...

...YOU WOULD'VE DONE A LOT BETTER IN THE RING.

GLOP

'CAUSE SOMETHING TELLS ME...

SPKAMM

UNNHH

...MOLTEN MEN MAKE FOR LOUSY *STREET* FIGHTERS!

DAMN THIS ASPHALT! C-CAN'T MOVE!

KTHWOP

WHATTYA KNOW. FIRST TIME I EVER BEAT THE TAR *INTO* SOMEBODY.

LIZ, I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU...I'VE BEEN PLANNING THIS FOR *SOME* TIME.

PLANNING? LIKE SUPER-VILLAIN-PLANNING?

NO, LIKE NORMAL-PERSON-PLANNING. EVER SINCE...

...I LET YOU KNOW I WAS STILL ALIVE. YOU SAID YOU'D MOVED ON...

...THAT THE LAST THING YOU WANTED WAS MORE OF ANY CRAZY-OSBORN-LIFE.

I COULDN'T LEAVE IT LIKE THAT.

I HAD TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT. BALANCE THE SCALES BETWEEN US. THAT'S WHEN I HEARD ABOUT MARK.

HOW HIS CONDITION HAD WORSENED. HOW IT WAS KILLING HIM. THEN I KNEW WHAT I HAD TO DO...

THAT'S WHY I CAME BACK TO THE STATES. WHY I TOOK CHARGE OF OSCORP.

SO I COULD CONVERT ALL OF THEIR R&D TOWARDS FINDING A CURE.

HARRY?

IT'S TRUE. A SERIES OF EXPERIMENTS, THE PROMETHEAN TRIALS.

THE CONTAINMENT ROOM YOU ORDERED? MY TEAM DESIGNED IT. IT WAS THE FIRST STAGE OF HIS TREATMENT.

AND THIS, THE X-90, IS THE LAST. AN ADAMANTIUM-TIPPED DELIVERY SYSTEM...

...FOR A SERUM THAT WILL PURGE ALL THE MOLTEN MATERIAL OUT OF HIM.

I SWEAR, LIZ. I DID ALL OF THIS FOR MARK'S SAKE.

ALL OF THIS FOR *YOU.*

I...I DON'T KNOW, HARRY. I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN TRUST YOU.

I THINK I CAN.

AH! DON'T DO THAT!

AREN'T YOU *BUSY?* SHOULDN'T YOU BE *DOING* SOMETHING RIGHT NOW?

WHAT? I CAN MULTI-TASK.

BUT MARK...?

DON'T WORRY. SOMETHING TELLS ME...

...HE'LL BE STICKING AROUND FOR A BIT.

=KAKK= ITZZ NNOT OVERRRR... GET YOU...

LIZ, YOU KNOW ME, AND I'M TELLING YOU...

...BOTH MY SPIDER-SENSE AND MY GUT SAY HARRY'S ON THE LEVEL.

ALL RIGHT, HARRY. IT'S YOUR MOVE.

THANKS. YOU WON'T BE SORRY. I CAN DO THIS--

YEAH. NO. THAT'D BE ME.

HEY! WHY DO YOU GET TO BE THE HERO?

TELL YOU WHAT, WHEN YOU'VE GOT SPIDER-SENSE, SPEED, AND STRENGTH...

"...YOU CAN CHARGE THE BIG, CHEESED-OFF METAL GUY!"

I'M BURRNING, SPIDERRR-MAN! BURRRNING ALIVE!

AND YOU CAN ALL BURRN WITH ME!

FWEHOOM

AHH!

TSSSS

YOU AND OZZBORN! YOU CAN BOTH BURRRN IN HE--

YEAH, MARK? AND YOU CAN...

...JUST CHILLAX.

KCHUK

GYEAH

"HE DIDN'T SAY THAT."

HE DID. I WAS CLOSE ENOUGH I HEARD HIM.
WELL, HE CAN'T ALWAYS BE ON.
CHILLAX? IF IT WAS TWO YEARS AGO, MAYBE. TWO HOURS AGO? NO.
ANYWAY. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
HEY, IF YOU DIDN'T KEEP TAKING OFF, I WOULDN'T HAVE TO KEEP FILLING YOU IN.
JUST TELL ME. DID IT WORK?
9-1-1
HE PULLED IT OFF, DIDN'T HE? HARRY REALLY CAME THROUGH FOR YOU, MARK.
DON'T GET ME WRONG, SIS, 'CAUSE THERE AIN'T NOBODY HAPPIER ABOUT THIS THAN ME.
BUT HE CAME THROUGH FOR YOU, LIZ. I-I REALLY THINK HE'S CHANGED.
SO? SPIDER-MAN? STILL LURKING AROUND?
DID HE TEXT YOU THAT? TTFN, YOUR BFF.
ON HIS WAY BACK TO NEW YORK.
9-1-1
CUT IT OUT. I SWEAR, YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A LITTLE--
YOU SUCK! ALL OF YOU SUCK!
NORMIE?
SORRY. HE WOULDN'T GO TO SLEEP. I THINK HE'S OVERTIRED...
WHY ARE YOU ALL LIKE THIS?!
DAD'S LIKE A ZOMBIE! UNCLE PETE KNOWS THAT CREEP, SPIDER-MAN.
AND UNCLE MARK'S ALL WEIRD! AND HE BROKE ALL OUR STUFF! MY STUFF!
HONEY, COME HERE.

WHY CAN'T YOU ALL BE LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE?!
WHY CAN'T YOU BE *NORMAL*?!
I'M SORRY, DEAR. BUT YOU'RE OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW...
NO ONE'S NORMAL. HARRY?
MOM'S RIGHT.
AND BELIEVE IT OR NOT, WHAT YOU HAVE ISN'T ALL THAT BAD.
FOR A WHILE WE THOUGHT DAD WAS GONE. AND THAT WE WERE GOING TO LOSE UNCLE MARK TOO.
BUT WE HAVE BOTH OF THEM NOW. NOT EVERYONE GETS A GIFT LIKE THAT.
REMEMBER THAT.
OKAY...
AND HARRY...THOSE SCALES?
CONSIDER THEM BALANCED.
LIZ, I...
WAIT.
BEFORE YOU CAME, YOU ASKED ABOUT SOMETHING. I TOLD YOU I LOST IT.
I DIDN'T. IT'S RIGHT HERE.
I HOPE...
...IT BRINGS YOU BETTER LUCK THIS TIME.
THANK YOU.

WELL, PAL, I... I THINK I'M READY TO HEAD HOME.

RIGHT, IT'S NOT LIKE WE COULD DO ANY MORE DAMAGE HERE.

YOU TWO ARE KIDDING, RIGHT? THIS BLOCK'S A DISASTER ZONE. *AND* YOU WERE IN POSSESSION OF HI-TECH ORDNANCE.

SIT YOURSELF DOWN. WE'VE GOT A FEW QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, PETE. YOU GOT ANY MORE FOR ME?

NO SECRETS?

FIRE AWAY.

SO YOU'RE ALIVE BECAUSE YOU TOOK GOBLIN SERUM.

CHECK.

THE PROMETHEAN TRIALS?

HOW'D YOU KNOW IT'D WORK?

CURE FOR THE MOLTEN MAN.

HUMAN TESTING.

WHAT?!

ON *ONE* VOLUNTEER: CHARLIE WEIDERMAN.

THE SECOND MOLTEN MAN.

THE GUY WHO WRECKED YOUR HOUSE IN QUEENS.

WHICH IS HOW YOU KNEW TO FIX IT.

SEE? IT ALL MAKES SENSE. MY TURN.

NO SECRETS?

SHOOT.

YOU AND SPIDER-MAN? YOU'RE JUST FRIENDS?

HARRY, *YOU AND I* ARE FRIENDS. WHAT I HAVE WITH SPIDER-MAN? HONESTLY? THAT'S SOMETHING ELSE.

I CAN LIVE WITH THAT. WAIT...

IS HE YOUR *BOYFRIEND?*

WHAT?

THAT WOULD EXPLAIN A *LOT.*

HE'S *NOT* MY--

LIKE ALL YOUR 'GIRL PROBLEMS'--

AAAND CUT.

YOU SURE TAKE LOTS OF PICTURES OF HIM...

END SCENE.

Epilogue.

CA-CHING! SPIDER-MAN COULDN'T FIGURE IT OUT.

DETECTIVE PALONE AND HIS SPECIAL UNIT COULDN'T CRACK IT.

The Bookie's Office.

DOWNSTAIRS FROM THE BAR WITH NO NAME.

BUT HERE IT IS. I GOT IT! THE *ONE* LINK BETWEEN ALL THE TRACER KILLINGS.

I KNOW I PROMISED THE WEB-HEAD I'D SOLVE THIS FOR HIM, BUT I JUST CAN'T HAND THIS OVER GIFT-WRAPPED, FOR NOTHING!

INFORMATION LIKE THIS SHOULD COST YOU--

YOU?! HOW'D YOU KNOW I--

WHA? *NO!*

FWAP

I-I WAS RIGHT! I FINALLY GOT IT RIGHT!

GO FIGURE. WHAT ARE THE ODDS?

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #583

PLATONIC

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MY NAME IS BETTY BRANT.

I HAVE THIS FRIEND.

YOU LOOK *REDONKULOUS!* AND NOT THE *GOOD* KIND OF REDONKULOUS!

WHAT IS IT WITH CROOKS AND THEIR BARGAIN-BASEMENT, WOULD-BE *IRON MAN* OUTFITS?

DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT IF THEY WERE ANY *GOOD*, THEY WOULDN'T BE FOR *SALE?*

I MADE THIS *MYSELF*, YOU JABBERING *TWIT!*

HIS NAME IS *PETER PARKER.*

I WISH HE WEREN'T *MISSING* THIS.

THEN HERE'S A *TIP! NEXT TIME,* LIKE THERE'S GONNA BE ONE, BUILD SOME *MANEUVERABILITY* INTO THAT *JETPACK!*

THINK *FALCON,* NOT *CANNONBALL!*

ASTORIA

WHO ARE *YOU* TO CHALLENGE MY *INTELLECT?*

YOU'RE RIGHT! YOU *TOTALLY* REMIND ME OF DOCTOR DOOM! KNOW *WHY?*

NOT THAT IT'S PARTICULARLY *ENTERTAINING*--LIKE A *LOT* OF NEW YORKERS, I HAVE MY *ISSUES* WITH SPIDER-MAN--

NEITHER OF YOU CAN TAKE *CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM!*

ANOTHER THING YOU MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER?

--THOUGH, AS A REPORTER FOR THE DB!, I SHOULD BE *GRATEFUL* THAT A STORY LIKE THIS HAS LANDED ALMOST LITERALLY IN MY *LAP*--

HELMET.

THWIPP

--BUT PETER WAS SUPPOSED TO *MEET* ME ON THIS CORNER *TWENTY MINUTES AGO.*

NEWBIE ERRORS. THEY HAPPEN. *TELL* ME YOU AT LEAST PICKED A SNAPPY *NAME.*

=MMPH=

KLLLLYUUUU--!

"KILLYU"? REALLY? YOU KNOW, THERE *ARE WEBSITES!* HAVE YOU TRIED "VILLAIN-NAMES.COM"? IT'S *AWESOME!*

ALWAYS RUN A *VIRUS CHECK* AFTERWARDS, THOUGH.

GIVE MY BEST TO THE *BOYS IN BLUE!* SEEYA!

...'SCUSE... PARDON...
BETTY! OVER HERE!
JUST A SECONDDDDD...
THERE! STORY FILED! AND WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, YOUNG MAN?
CROWD WAS THICK! SOMETHING GOING ON TONIGHT?
SPIDER-MAN.
HE WAS HERE?
SNORE. IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE WEARING? I THOUGHT I SAID THE GREEN SHIRT.
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME FOR LAUNDRY.
I AM JUST TRYING TO HELP, PETER.
Geano's
WE HAVE GOT TO GET YOU A GIRLFRIEND.
TONIGHT: SPEED DATING 8-11:00 ALL WELCOME
TONIGHT: SPEED DATING 8-11:00 ALL WELCOME

I FIRST MET PETER WHEN HE STARTED AT THE *DAILY BUGLE*, BACK IN *HIGH SCHOOL*.

THROUGH HIM, I'VE MADE SOME LIFELONG *FRIENDS*, AND WHAT WE HAVE IN COMMON MOST OF *ALL* IS THAT WE *LOVE* PETER...

...*DESPITE* HIMSELF.

YES, HE'S *SMART*...YOU *FORGET* HOW *SMART* HE IS...

...CAN'T BELIEVE I *SPILLED*... I'M *SO* SORRY! YOU KNOW, THERE ARE *GLYCERIN* COMPOUNDS THAT WILL BREAK DOWN THE *TANNIN* MOLECULES--

I'LL BREAK DOWN YOUR *HEAD*.

...HE'S *OPEN-MINDED*...

...AN' MY *REAL* DREAM IS TO BE A RODEO CLOWN. DO YOU LIKE *CLOWNS*?

'CAUSE I REALLY, REALLY LIKE *CLOWNS*!

ME? I--

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU WERE AT THE *CIRCUS*?

I DON'T MEET GREAT CLOWNS.

DOES THE *RINGMASTER'S CIRCUS OF CRIME* COUNT?

...AND HE'S *FUNNY*.

...SO THEN THE *BARBER* SAYS, "WELL, YOU GET WHAT YOU *PAY* FOR, MR. JAMESON!"

UH-HUH.

THREE... TWO... *ONE*...

DING!

SWITCH!

BUT IT'S NO SECRET HOW FUNDAMENTALLY... *UNDEPENDABLE* PETER IS.

WOW. HELLO, *GORGEOUS*!

YOUR NAME MUST BE *MICKEY*, 'CAUSE YOU'RE SO *FINE*!

NOT THAT *DEPENDABILITY* NECESSARILY *MATTERS* TO *EVERYONE.*

BABS

WELL?

I AM NOW OFFICIALLY TWO HOURS CLOSER TO MY EVENTUAL *DEATH.*

DON'T YOU *WAVE* AT HER. *DON'T YOU--*

UH-OH.

--AAAUUGH.

I'M BEING POLITE.

A WOMAN LIKE *THAT* DOESN'T *WANT* YOU TO BE *POLITE.*

WHAT ABOUT *YOU?* YOU HAVE ANY LUCK TONIGHT?

WE'RE SHOPPING FOR *YOU.*

YOU'RE TOO GOOD TO ME.

NO *KIDDING.*

PETER'S *AUNT MAY* VOLUNTEERS AT A *HOMELESS SHELTER* DOWNTOWN.

IT'S SWEET THAT YOU WANT TO WALK YOUR AUNT TO THE *TRAIN.*

F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT
FOOD, EMERGENCY AID, SHELTER AND TRAINING

I'M EARNING *NEPHEW POINTS.*

MAY'S THE *BEST.*

YOU DON'T HAVE TO STICK AROUND. YOU'RE STILL KEEPING *SPECIAL FRIDAY* OPEN FOR ME, RIGHT?

WHY NOT?

PETER! I SEE YOU'VE BROUGHT *COMPANY.*

I HAVE, INDEED. CAN I SPEAK WITH YOU A SECOND, PRETTY LADY...?

"SPECIAL FRIDAY" IS MY *BIRTHDAY.*

PETER ASKED ME *WEEKS* AGO WHAT I *WANTED.* I ASKED *HIM* TO PULL ALL OUR *FRIENDS* TOGETHER FOR A NICE *DINNER.*

HE HASN'T MENTIONED IT SINCE.

THAT MEANS HE'S *PLANNING* SOMETHING, WHICH IS NO DOUBT WHY HE'S WHISPERING TO *MAY.* HE THINKS I'VE *FORGOTTEN.*

ADORABLE.

SO HE'S REALLY *TRYING.* THE *QUESTION* IS...WILL *UNDEPENDABLE PETER* BE ABLE TO PULL THIS OFF?

SORRY 'BOUT THAT. I WAS GIVING HER *DATING* TIPS. YOU KNOW WHAT A *COUGAR* THAT WOMAN IS.

AgentofNothing.com

Read Brevoort's Blog

Code word: MIKEL

PETER *PARKER!* YOU BE *NICE!*

AND TELL HER TO STAY AWAY FROM *HUGH JACKMAN.* HE'S MINE.

GET YOUR *COAT* FOR YOU, MS. PARKER?

NO, THANK YOU, GUS. IT WON'T TAKE BUT A *MOMENT...*

AND REMEMBER *TOMORROW.* PART OF THE *LOVE-LIFE IMPROVEMENT* PROCESS, YES?

PETER?

WHERE ARE *YOU* OFF TO?

I--JUST *REMEMBERED!* THERE'S THIS...*THING* UPTOWN, AND I'M SUPPOSED TO... *PHOTOGRAPH* IT!

EXPLAIN TO MY *AUNT,* OKAY? *THANKS!*

BETTY? WHERE ON EARTH IS *PETER?* HE WAS RIGHT *HERE!*

SIGH

HE REALIZED HE WAS LATE FOR AN *APPOINTMENT.* THEN HE BROKE THE *SOUND BARRIER.*

"YOU KNOW HOW HE *IS.*"

I'LL BE *HAPPY* TO ESCORT YOU IN HIS *STEAD.*

WHAT? OH, NO, DEAR. DON'T GO OUT OF YOUR WAY.

IT ISN'T REALLY OUT OF--

I'LL BE JUST FINE.

SHE *SAYS* THAT, BUT THERE'S A SADNESS IN HER TONE.

SHE'S BEEN ALONE SO LONG. I DO WISH SHE COULD FIND SOMEONE *SPECIAL*-- AND *RELIABLE.*

SOMEONE SHE CAN *COUNT* ON.

THE NEXT DAY, AS COULD BE *EXPECTED*, PETER *BLOWS* OUR APPOINTMENT TO GET HIM A 21ST CENTURY *HAIRCUT*.

PETE'S ROOMMATE, *VIN*, HAS NO CLUE WHERE PETER'D GONE.

NYPD

WE CAN ONLY HOPE HE'S OUT DOING SOMETHING *PRODUCTIVE*.

ON *WEDNESDAY*, I MEET PETE OUTSIDE THE *FRONT LINE* OFFICES WHERE HE *FREELANCES*.

I SPOT HIM TALKING TO *ROBBIE ROBERTSON*, WHO USED TO WORK WITH ME AT THE DB! BACK WHEN IT WAS THE *BUGLE*. I HAVEN'T SEEN ROBBIE IN *AGES*.

I TRY TO *CATCH* HIM AS HE *LEAVES*, BUT HE SAYS HE'S IN A *RUSH* AND THAT HE'LL SEE PETE *"THIS WEEKEND."*

SCORE ONE FOR *PETER*: IT'S GOING TO BE *GREAT* HAVING *ROBBIE* AT THIS DINNER.

TA

THE WEEK'S EVAPORATING *FAST.*

MY OLD FRIEND *HALEY* E-MAILED ME LATE LAST NIGHT TO GRIPE-SLASH-COMMISERATE ABOUT BEING BETWEEN BOYFRIENDS, AND IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT SHE'S NEVER *MET* PETE, SO I SUGGESTED WE ALL *RENDEZVOUS* TONIGHT, *CASUAL.*

LOVE HALEY, BUT I WISH I HADN'T STAYED UP SO LATE. IN MY RUSH TO GET *READY* THIS MORNING, I THINK I FORGOT MY NOTES ON THE *ELECTION STORY*. ARE THEY *IN* HERE...?

HACYS

OH!

LOOK OUT!

SIR, I *APOLOGIZE!* I NEVER WATCH WHERE I'M *GOING!*

NO HARM! THAT COFFEE WAS TERRIBLE, ANYWAY. YOU'RE NOT HURT...?

NOTHING BROKEN. YOU WORK IN THE BUILDING? HAVE I SEEN YOU BEFORE?

NOT LIKELY.

I HAVEN'T SET FOOT INSIDE THOSE DOORS SINCE BEFORE YOU WERE *BORN*, MISS.

DIDN'T THE *DAILY BUGLE* USED TO PUBLISH HERE?

IT'S CALLED THE DB! NOW. BOY, YOU MUST BE FROM *WAY* OUT OF TOWN NOT TO HAVE HEARD ABOUT *THAT* SWITCHOVER.

I'VE BEEN ABROAD. I USED TO LIVE IN NEW YORK LONG, LONG AGO, THOUGH. FRESHLY BACK, SETTING UP A NEW LIFE. SUBWAYS ARE STILL A NICKEL, RIGHT?

HA!

WHOOPS! MADE YOU SMILE!

YOU SAID HE'S *CUTE*, RIGHT?

YOU'LL *LOVE* HIM, HALEY. HE'S EXACTLY YOUR *TYPE*.

Mole's

Mole's

NOT *YOURS?*

IT'S NOT A *CRITICISM*. PETER'S *FANTASTIC*.

THEN WHY AREN'T *YOU* AND *HE*...?

WHY AREN'T *BERT* AND *ERNIE*? WE'RE *PALS*.

BEAR WITH HIM. HE'S JUST RUNNING A LITTLE LATE, THAT'S ALL. LEMME TEXT HIM.

C'MON, PARKER... I SAID *EIGHT O'CLOCK*...WHERE *ARE* YA...?

SO IF NOT *PETER*, THEN *WHO?* WHAT ARE YOU HOLDING *OUT* FOR, *BRANT?*

DUNNO.

A *HERO.*

WHAT A *STORY* THIS GUY IS, *WHOEVER* HE IS.

I DON'T MEAN *HEADLINE* MATERIAL. I MEAN, HE'S SO CLEARLY BEEN *AROUND* AND HAS SEEN A LOT. YOU CAN *TELL* WITH EVERY SENTENCE THAT COMES OUT OF HIS *MOUTH*.

I FIND MYSELF CHATTING WITH HIM FOR A SURPRISINGLY LONG TIME. THERE'S JUST SOMETHING VERY WARM AND LIKEABLE ABOUT HIM. SOME *INTEGRITY*.

AND WE *DEFINITELY* BOND ON THE SUBJECT OF HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO *MEET* PEOPLE IN NEW YORK. SO IT *HITS* ME...

I SIMPLY *MUST* GET TO WORK, MISTER... I'M SORRY, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

CALL ME "J."

JAY. LISTEN, JAY...

MAY PARKER 718-555-C

THERE'S SOMEONE I THINK YOU SHOULD *MEET*. HER NAME IS *MAY PARKER*.

GIVE HER A RING SOMETIME. TELL HER YOU'RE FRIENDS WITH ME.

I... ALL RIGHT.

DO IT.

I THINK YOU TWO MIGHT REALLY *HIT IT OFF*.

MAY PARKER
NEW YORK STATE
DRIVER LICENSE
08-09-39
08-09-JAMESON
DOB: JONAH
J. 39 98 JAMESON ST
39 98 YORK
NEW YORK
EYES BROWN
SEX: M
ISSUED

MARGARITAS COMPLIMENTS OF THE "WHAT NOT TO WEAR" TEAM OVER THERE. SHALL I TELL 'EM NO THANKS, YOU'RE WAITING FOR SOMEONE?

Mole's

I WILL DOUBLE YOUR TIP AND GIVE YOU ALL MY BUSINESS FOREVER.

I SHOULDN'T.

WHAT SHE SAID. BUT DO LEAVE THE BOOZE.

ONE GLASS ISN'T GONNA KILL US.

JUST A SIP.

NOW YOU'RE ON THE TROLLEY. SO, TELL ME MORE ABOUT THIS PETER DUDE...

-HIC-

...AND, OH, GOD, THE SHOES HE WEARS...THE AWFUL, AWFUL SHOOOOOES!

A COW SHOULD NOT HAFTA DIE FOR THOSE SHOES...!

HEH.

MOOOOOOOO.

HEY, LADIES! SORRY I'M--

OH, BOY.

ISSSPETER!

HALEY, ISSSPETER!

HIIIIIIII!

SO IZZT TRUE THEY CALL'YA "PUNY" PARKER IN HIGH SCHOOL?

PUUUUUUNEEEEE. PUNY!

HEE!

YOU SHOULD MATCHMAKE FOR A LIVING!

OH, SHUSH! YOU'RE ALL SOOTY! WHYZZAT? WHY'RE YA--

OH! OH! THERE'S THIS PLACE? NEAR MY HOUSE? THAT SELLS HELPER MONKEYS? THEY ARE SICK!

WELL, HELLO! IS YOUR NAME PETER?

NO.

THEN SIT!

OOOOKAY. YOU ARE DONE. TELL YOUR FRIEND NIGHT-NIGHT.

NO! SHE C'N COME WITHUS! RI', HALEY?

I...THINK HER ATTENTION HAS BEEN COMMANDEERED.

KATOHIA STORM

CLC News

YOU MIND IF WE SCOOT, HALEY?

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT. HAVE A GOOD NIGHT, YOU TWO!

HELPER! MONKEYS!

ATLANTIC CITY! NO! LISBON! LISBON! I'LL DRIVE!
ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.
WE'LL STEAL A BOAT! A BIG BOAT! WE C'N TAKE ALL OUR FRIENDS AND YOU SMELL LIKE SMOKE!
HAVE YOU BEEN SMOKING, PARKER PETER? I SMELL NICE, RIGHT? DO YOU LIKE THE WAY I SMELL?
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW JACK DANIELS MADE A PERFUME.
COFFEE BEAN'S RIGHT HERE. MAYBE WE SHOULD SOBER YOU UP, WHADDAYA SAY?
OOOOH! THEY PUT IN WOBBLY FLOORS!
THE CHAIRS ARE STABLE. LET'S GET YOU IN ONE OF THOSE.
HELLO, LI'L NAPKINS!
TRIPLE ESPRESSO FOR THE LADY.
WHAT SIZE?
GALLON.
KEEP BOTH FEET ON THE GROUND, BETTS. I'LL BE RIIIGHT BACK. I'M GONNA GO EXPLAIN TO THE OWNER THAT WHEN YOU RALPH ALL OVER THE FLOOR, IT'S NOT GONNA BE PERSONAL.
'LO, HARRY.
PETE.
WHOOZEE TALKIN' TO...? OH! HARRY OSBORN! 'COURSE!
GIRLFRIEN'S POP IZ RUNNIN' F'R MAYOR, BUT HE'S A LOUSE. HE'S INVITED T' FRIDAY, TOO, BETCHA!
HARRY, NOT MAYOR LOUSE. HARRY'S COOL.
HI, HARRY!
...YEAH... SHE'S TOO OUT OF IT TO KNOW WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, SO NO WORRIES. WE GOOD?
GREAT.

OH, MY ACHING *MIND*... HOW LONG HAVE WE *BEEN* HERE?

I DON'T HAVE A CALENDAR ON ME.

RELAX. IT'S NOT EVEN *DAWN* YET, AND YOU'RE *COHERENT* AGAIN. I'LL FIND YOU A CAB.

SORRY ABOUT *HALEY.*

BYGONES. DON'T TRY SO HARD. I'D LOVE TO GET BACK INTO THE DATING WORLD, BUT I'M JUST SO... SO...

SCATTERBRAINED? SCHEDULE-CHALLENGED? DOES THIS MEAN WE'RE NOT STILL ON FOR TOMORROW NIGHT?

OF *COURSE* WE ARE. I'LL SWING BY AT SEVEN SHARP, HOWZAT?

AXI

SHOULD I JUST MEET YOU SOMEWHERE? IN CASE YOU...YOU KNOW...DON'T *SHOW?*

IF I DON'T SHOW, WHAT DOES IT MATTER *WHERE* YOU MEET ME?

PETER... DON'T LET ME *DOWN*, 'KAY? I'M REALLY LOOKING *FORWARD* TO THIS. *SWEAR* TO ME YOU WON'T DISAPPOINT ME.

DOUBLE PINKY SWEAR. *BELIEVE* ME.

I'M *TRYING* TO, PETE.

I *WANT* TO.

+SIGH+

KNOCK KNOCK

!

HIYA, TOOTS!

ARE THOSE NEW SHOES? THEY'RE *NICE!*

I THOUGHT SO. *YOU'RE* A *KNOCKOUT* TONIGHT!

WELL, IT'S MY *BIRTHDAY!*

WHAT?

KIDDING! BUT YOU'RE A LITTLE *OVERDRESSED.*

WHY? WHERE ARE WE *GOING?*

WHO SAID WE'RE GOING *ANYWHERE?* *GIFT SPOILER ALERT!*

RENTAL

I GOT THAT *MOVIE* WE WERE TALKING ABOUT! AND YOUR FAVORITE *DINNER* FROM YOUR FAVORITE *PLACE!* HAPPY *BIRTHDAY!*

FAT CHO's

DID YOU KNOW THAT IF YOU HIT "STOP, STOP, PLAY" ON YOUR REMOTE, MOVIES START RIGHT UP?

YOU'VE MENTIONED IT.

...AH HA HA HA...

WAIT WAIT WAIT! DO THE DELETED SCENES...!

MM-HMM.

WHEW! THAT WAS A RIOT!

WHAT NOW?

NOTHING, I GUESS.

WHAT'S WRONG, BIRTHDAY GIRL?

I...I WAS JUST... ASSUMING THAT...

I KNOW YOU WERE PLANNING A BIRTHDAY PARTY, PETER.

OUCH.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT BECAME OF IT, BUT... I GUESS I SHOULDN'T HAVE EXPECTED THAT MUCH FROM...

...IT'S NOT A BIG...

NO. FORGET THAT. I'M PISSED.

PETER, YOU KNEW THIS WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME! WHY DID YOU LET ME DOWN AGAIN? WHY DO YOU ALWAYS BLOW OUR PLANS?

BETTY, I TRIED TO PULL IT TOGETHER, I SWEAR, BUT...

BUT WHAT? IF YOU WERE REALLY MY FRIEND, YOU'D BE STRAIGHT WITH ME!

BUT

WHAT?

...

...BUT NO ONE WOULD *COME.*

WHAT?

BUT...BUT *MAY,* AND *ROBBIE,* AND...AND...I SAW YOU *TALKING* TO THEM *ABOUT* ME...

YEAH. YOU DID. SO I'M GONNA BE *HONEST.*

"I WAS *DEFENDING* YOU. AUNT MAY'S *FURIOUS* WITH YOU.

"SHE HAS BEEN SINCE YOU WROTE THAT BIG *DIRT-DIGGING ARTICLE* ABOUT HER *BOSS,* MR. LI.

"AND *HARRY'S* MAD AT YOU FOR GOING AFTER HIS GIRLFRIEND'S *FATHER* IN PRINT.

"YOU DON'T SEEM TO *REALIZE* IT... BUT YOU HAVEN'T EXACTLY BEEN RENEWING *FRIENDSHIPS* LATELY."

WH-WHAT ABOUT *ROBBIE?* I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO--

HE LOVES YOU LIKE A *DAUGHTER,* BETTS. WHOLE *DIFFERENT* PROBLEM.

HERE.

WHEN WE ALL WALKED OUT ON THE DB IN PROTEST OVER THE WAY DEXTER BENNETT WAS RUNNING IT, YOU *STAYED.*

OF *ALL* OF US, YOU WERE THE *ONE PERSON* WHO *STAYED*...AND I THINK THAT REALLY *HURT* ROBBIE.

OH, MY GOD...I DIDN'T EVEN THINK...

DO YOU HATE ME, *TOO?*

OH, *STOP.*

NO ONE *HATES* YOU, SWEETIE. THEY'LL GET *OVER* IT.

BETTY, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I KNOW--I CAN *IMAGINE*--WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE *UNPOPULAR* IN YOUR *JOB.*

AND I THINK IF YOU WEREN'T SO *LONELY,* IT'D BE A LITTLE MORE *OBVIOUS* TO YOU THAT YOU'VE PUT SOME FRIENDS AT *ARM'S LENGTH.*

NOT FOREVER?

NOT FOREVER. DON'T LET IT RATTLE YOU. YOU'RE A *GOOD PERSON,* BETTY BRANT.

SNFFF
DO YOU REALLY THINK SO?
EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT. ASK 'EM.
THEY'RE NOT HERE.
YOU ARE.
I HAVE THIS FRIEND.
HIS NAME IS PETER PARKER.
AND HE'S LIKE NO ONE ELSE IN MY LIFE.
HE'S GEEKY, AND HE'S A LITTLE FLIGHTY...
...AND WE'VE HAD TO BUILD A LOT OF WHAT WE HAVE IN COMMON.
AND IT'S TAKEN TIME.
CHECKERS

I WISH HE WERE *AROUND* MORE, BUT HE'S *ALWAYS* THERE WHEN NO ONE *ELSE* IS. AND THAT'S ENOUGH.

BECAUSE WHEN YOU DON'T BURDEN HIM WITH *EXPECTATIONS* AND JUST LET *PETER* BE *PETER*...HE *SHINES.*

HE'S A *GOOD* FRIEND.

MY *BEST* FRIEND.

End.

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #583
"SPIDEY MEETS THE PRESIDENT"

WASHINGTON, D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE. JANUARY 20, 2009

7:00AM.

SIR, I'M HERE TO SEE ABOUT YOUR SUIT. HAVE YOU CHOSEN WHICH ONE YOU LIKE BETTER?

WELL, ALYSSA, THERE WASN'T REALLY A CHOICE, ACTUALLY...

YOUR COMPANY DELIVERED TWO OF THE SAME SUIT.

THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A MIX-UP.

OH, I'M AFRAID THERE WAS NO MIX-UP--NOT YET, AT LEAST.

THE SECOND SUIT'S FOR ME!

WHA--

LATER...

EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT, MR. PRESIDENT-ELECT?

OH, YES. EVERYTHING IS PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO PLAN...

HEY!

SEE YOU AT THE CEREMONY, MR. PRESIDENT-ELECT!
HELLO?
RENEGADE IS ON THE MOVE.
COME ON! LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD!
YES, SIR.
GEEZ, WHAT A GROUCH...
THAT WAS WEIRD.
JOE, STOP THAT CAR!
BARACK? BUT--BUT YOU JUST DROVE OFF!
THIS IS JUST LIKE THAT EPISODE OF *KNIGHT RIDER* WHEN THE EVIL MICHAEL--
ENOUGH *KNIGHT RIDER* TRIVIA, JOE. IT'S NOT ME, IT'S AN IMPOSTER.
WE'VE GOT TO CATCH UP WITH THAT LIMO!
YEAH, WE DO.
SO HAND OVER THE KEYS... IT'S TIME TO PUT ALL THAT *KNIGHT RIDER* KNOWLEDGE TO USE.
SCRANTON JOE BIDEN'S DRIVIN' NOW.

MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE THE CAPITOL...

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, I'M GOING TO BE LATE FOR THE STORY OF THE DECADE!

WHOA! HOLD IT, BUDDY!

IT'S OKAY, I'M A PHOTOGRAPHER...

THAT'S A GREAT STORY, BUT I STILL NEED TO SEE YOUR CREDENTIALS.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT I DID WITH THEM, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

UH, WOULD YOU BELIEVE I'M AN EXTRA-SPECIAL PHOTOGRAPHER THAT DOESN'T NEED CREDENTIALS?

NO. NO, HE WOULD NOT.

OF ALL THE CRUMMY--

IT'S A GOOD THING I'VE GOT A *DIFFERENT* KIND OF CREDENTIALS...

...SPIDEY CREDENTIALS!

PETER PARKER! I KNOW YOU!

WHA--?

SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN?

YOU KNOW THIS MAN, SIR? BECAUSE IF NOT, WE HAVE TO REMOVE HIM.

KNOW HIM? THIS IS PETER PARKER! HE'S A FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPHER.

WELL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT FAMOUS...

HEY! SOME OF US STILL READ NEWSPAPERS, YOU KNOW. I *LOVE* YOUR PICTURES OF SPIDER-MAN IN THE BUGLE.

I EVEN BOUGHT YOUR BOOK!

YOW! WHAT A GRIP! WAS THIS GUY BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SENATOR OR SOMETHING?

HE'S NOT CARRYING CREDENTIALS, SIR.

WHAT IS IT WITH YOU GUYS AND CREDE--

ACTUALLY, I WAS TRYING TO GET MR. PARKER'S ATTENTION. YOU SEE...

HE DROPPED THIS. YOU FOLLOW ME?

LOUD AND CLEAR, SIR.

PLEASE DON'T SQUEEZE MY HAND AGAIN.

WOW!

RESS

The 56th

Presiden

Inaugurat

THANKS, SENATOR.

...AND IF I EVER NEED DOC OCK'S ARMS BROKEN, I KNOW WHO TO CALL.

I HAVE TO ADMIT IT WAS PRETTY COOL OF FRONT LINE TO SEND LITTLE OLD PETER PARKER OUT TO COVER THE PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION.

OF COURSE I HAD TO TAKE THE BUS, WHICH WAS IN NO WAY "COOL."

BUT IT WAS WORTH IT TO SEE HISTORY IN THE MAKING.

CRASH

UH-OH.

EVERYONE HOLD ON JUST A SECOND...

WE'VE GOT A SITUATION HERE!

WE'VE GOT TWO SITUATIONS HERE... TWO OF THE *EXACT SAME* SITUATIONS!

HE AIN'T KIDDING... AND WHETHER IT'S SHAPE-CHANGING SKRULLS, MY OLD PAL MYSTERIO, OR JUST AN OUT OF WORK ACTOR WITH BAD DRIVING SKILLS...

PRESS

...ONE THING'S FOR SURE...

...THE FUTURE PRESIDENT'S GONNA NEED *SPIDER-MAN.*

HIYA, PREZ-ELECT! LOVED YA IN THE DEBATES!

THIS IS OFFICIAL *GOVERNMENT* BUSINESS! GET THE WALL-CRAWLER OUT OF HERE!

HEY, I'VE GOT A LITTLE EXPERIENCE WITH IMPOSTERS, BE THEY CLONES, ROBOTS, OR TOBEY MAGUIRE. I CAN HELP!

EVERYONE RELAX. LET'S HEAR HIM OUT.

LISTEN, THE EASIEST WAY TO DO THIS IS TO ASK THEM BOTH A QUESTION THAT ONLY THE *REAL* BARACK OBAMA WOULD KNOW THE ANSWER TO.

I GOT ONE!

WHAT WAS YOUR NICKNAME ON YOUR HIGH SCHOOL'S VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM?

THAT'S SILLY. I'M A POLITICIAN NOT A--

BARRY O'BOMBER.

TH-THAT'S NOT TRUE!

THEN WHAT WAS IT?

IT WAS... UHH... *BARA*SKET... *OBALL*MA...

I PAINTED IT RIGHT ON... MY... UMM... HELMET...

HELMET? HAVE YOU EVER EVEN *PLAYED* BASKET-BALL?

MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE A THREE POINT SHOOT-OUT.

THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.

NO... TH-THAT'S THE STUPIDEST IDEA I'VE EVER HEARD! WHERE ARE WE GOING TO FIND A *BASKETBALL DIAMOND* AROUND HERE!

COME ON, GUYS? SERIOUSLY?

ALL RIGHT, YA BOZO, THIS IS THE PART WHERE YA GET PUNCHED...

HOLD IT, THERE, SPIDER-MAN. I APPRECIATE YOUR HELP, BUT I'VE GOT THIS...

NO!

I WAS SO CLOSE! IF I'D MADE IT TO THE PODIUM I WOULD HAVE BEEN SWORN IN!

IT WOULDN'T HAVE MATTERED WHO I WAS! I WOULD HAVE BEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES!

SPLORCH SQUISH

ME! THE CHAMELEON!

OKAY, I WAS WRONG, SPIDER-MAN. THIS IS DEFINITELY YOUR DEPARTMENT.

YA HEAR THAT, CHAMELEON? THE PRESIDENT-ELECT HERE JUST APPOINTED ME...

...SECRETARY OF SHUTTIN' YOU UP!

LATER...

WELL, *THAT* WAS UNPLEASANT. I HOPE THIS DOESN'T RUIN THE INAUGURATION FOR YOU.

HONESTLY, I'M MORE UPSET BY THE CHAMELEON'S SHOCKINGLY DEFICIENT UNDERSTANDING OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS.

WELL, I'D BETTER GET GOING THEN...

...THIS IS YOUR DAY, AFTER ALL, AND I KNOW IT WOULDN'T LOOK GOOD TO BE SEEN PALLING AROUND WITH ME...

...PLUS I THINK BIDEN'S STILL MAD I CONFUSED HIM FOR THE VULTURE ON THE TRAIN THAT ONE TIME.

HEY, NOT SO FAST.

WHAT IS IT?

I'VE BEEN A BIG FAN OF YOURS FOR A LONG TIME, AND BEFORE YOU GO I JUST WANT TO SAY...

THANKS...

...PARTNER.

THE NEXT THING I KNOW HE'S AT THE PODIUM GETTING SWORN IN LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED.

AND I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING THAT IF I HADN'T SHOWED UP, HE WOULD HAVE HANDLED THE CHAMELEON ALL BY HIMSELF.

...I, BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA, DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY EXECUTE THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES...

GUESS IT'S TIME TO HEAD BACK TO NEW YORK.

IT LOOKS LIKE WASHINGTON IS IN *CAPABLE* HANDS.

UH-OH. I THINK BIDEN SEES ME.

THE END

PRESIDENTS' DAY SPECIAL

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: PRESIDENTS' DAY SPECIAL

GETTYSBURG DISTRESS!

WITH MALICE TOWARDS NONE, AND CHARITY TOWARDS ALL, I HERETOFORE DECREE THESE FIVE-SPOTS TO BE FOREVER FIXED AND FOREVER FREE!

SO PROCLAIMS PROFESSOR LINCOLNSTEIN AND HIS FEARSOME FINANCIAL EMANCIPATORS!

GOOD HEAVENS, KIDS--! IT'S THAT PUNK PROFESSOR ABRAHAM VON LINCOLNSTEIN... THE VILLAIN SO LOOPY HE STEALS FIVE DOLLAR BILLS AND "CORRECTS" THEM WITH HIS OWN TWISTED IMAGE!

AND HIS ARMY OF UNTHINKING ROBOT THIEVES IS WITH HIM!

WELL, FACE FRONT, TRUE BELIEVERS-- THIS IS A MARVEL COMIC, AFTER ALL-- AND THAT MEANS THE GOOD GUYS ARE NEVER TOO FAR OFF-PANEL...

MATT FRACTION WRITER	ANDY MACDONALD ARTIST	NICK FILARDI COLOR ART	CHRIS ELIOPOULOS LINCOLN LOG	TOM BRENNAN ASST. EDITOR	SPRINGFIELD, ILL'S STEPHEN WACKER EDITOR	JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF	DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER

HEY, CAP--REMEMBER WHEN *PRESIDENTS' DAY* MEANT *WHITE SALES* AND GETTING TO STAY HOME FROM *SCHOOL?*

I *LIKE SCHOOL*, SPIDER-MAN. AND THESE CHEAP SPECIAL EFFECTS HAVE DEFACED *DOZENS* OF *FEDERAL RESERVE NOTES...*

THAT KIND OF VANDALISM IS NO LAUGHING MATTER-- IT'S A *FEDERAL* OFFENSE!

(18 U.S.C. 333)--MARVEL'S LAW-LOVIN' LEGAL DEPARTMENT

I DUNNO, CAP, A WELL-PLACED WACKY MUSTACHE IMPROVED MANY A HISTORY TEXTBOOK IN MY DAY.

THWIPP

THWIPP

AND YOU SHOULD SEE WHAT A PIRATEY EYEPATCH DID FOR ELEANOR ROOSEVELT...

I'VE HAD QUITE ENOUGH BESMIRCHING OF THE GOOD NAME AND CHARACTER OF OUR *FIRST LADIES*, SPIDEY.

SHOW A LITTLE RESPECT!

YOU'RE A *STAR SPANGLED BUMMER, CAPTA-- WUHHHF!*

BESIDES, THAT *CHARLATAN* COULDN'T EVEN BE BOTHERED TO GET THE *VOICE* RIGHT.

HONEST ABE LINCOLN SOUNDED *NOTHING* LIKE THIS GUY...!

BUH-- *WHUH?!?*

HOW WOULD *YOU* KNOW WHAT ABRAHAM LINCOLN SOUNDED LIKE?

GROCERIES
DELI MEATS
WELL, PAL, THEREBY HANGS A TALE--!

"I WAS SCRAPPING IT UP WITH THE RED SKULL--"
"LIKE YOU DO."
"LIKE I DO, YES, AND THEN SUDDENLY THE COSMIC CUBE, WHICH MOMENTS BEFORE THE SKULL WAS USING TO WARP REALITY, WENT WEIRD.
"IT STARTED SPEWING OUT ALL THIS WEIRD ENERGY AND SPOTTED LIGHTS...

"THE LIGHTS TURNED INTO MUSIC, A BAND, A KIND OF MARCHING BAND WAS PLAYING...
"SOMEHOW... FOR SOME REASON...I WAS AT GETTYSBURG.
"NOT JUST IN GETTYSBURG. I WAS AT GETTYSBURG.

"THEN THE BAND STOPPED AND...

"AND EVERYONE WAS WAITING. WATCHING.

"HE WASN'T WEARING HIS HAT, SO... SO, AT FIRST, I DIDN'T REALIZE HE WAS WHO HE WAS. AND THEN--

"AND THEN THE GREAT MAN ROSE.

"SLOWLY. LIKE A TREE BENDING IN A BREEZE.

"NO ONE SPOKE. NO ONE COUGHED.

"NO ONE DARED. AND THEN:

FOURSCORE AND SEVEN YEARS AGO OUR FATHERS BROUGHT FORTH ON THIS CONTINENT A NEW NATION--

--CONCEIVED IN LIBERTY--

AND DEDICATED TO THE PROPOSITION THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL.

"HIS VOICE. IT WAS *HIGH.* REEDY. HE SOUNDED--

"--DUE RESPECT--

"--LIKE A *KENTUCKY* FARMBOY.

NOW WE ARE ENGAGED IN A GREAT CIVIL WAR, TESTING WHETHER THAT NATION, OR ANY NATION SO CONCEIVED AND SO DEDICATED, CAN LONG ENDURE.

WE ARE MET ON A GREAT BATTLEFIELD OF THAT WAR.

WE HAVE COME TO DEDICATE A PORTION OF THAT FIELD, AS A FINAL RESTING PLACE FOR THOSE WHO HERE GAVE THEIR LIVES THAT THAT NATION MIGHT LIVE.

IT IS ALTOGETHER FITTING AND PROPER THAT WE SHOULD DO THIS.

BUT, IN A LARGER SENSE, WE CAN NOT DEDICATE--WE CAN NOT CONSECRATE--WE CAN NOT HALLOW--THIS GROUND.

THE BRAVE MEN, LIVING AND DEAD, WHO STRUGGLED HERE, HAVE CONSECRATED IT, FAR ABOVE OUR POOR POWER TO ADD OR DETRACT.

THE WORLD WILL LITTLE NOTE, NOR LONG REMEMBER, WHAT WE SAY HERE, BUT IT CAN NEVER FORGET WHAT THEY DID HERE.

IT IS FOR US, THE LIVING, RATHER, TO BE DEDICATED HERE TO THE UNFINISHED WORK WHICH THEY WHO FOUGHT HERE HAVE THUS FAR SO NOBLY ADVANCED.

IT IS RATHER FOR US TO BE HERE DEDICATED TO THE GREAT TASK REMAINING BEFORE US--

--THAT FROM THESE HONORED DEAD WE TAKE INCREASED DEVOTION TO THAT CAUSE FOR WHICH THEY GAVE THE LAST FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION--

THAT WE HERE HIGHLY RESOLVE THAT THESE DEAD SHALL NOT HAVE DIED IN VAIN.

THAT THIS NATION, UNDER GOD, SHALL HAVE A NEW BIRTH OF FREEDOM--AND THAT GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE...

"AND, I SWEAR, JUST FOR A SECOND--JUST FOR THE TINIEST OF SECONDS...

"HE LOOKED RIGHT AT ME.

...FOR THE PEOPLE...

...SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH.

"AND THAT WAS IT. THE CUBE DECIDED--OR I DECIDED, I DON'T KNOW--THAT I HAD SEEN ENOUGH.

"I GOT TO HEAR THE MOST IMPORTANT 278 WORDS ANY PRESIDENT HAS EVER SAID AND THEN I WAS GONE."

MAN! HOW COME COOL STUFF LIKE THAT NEVER HAPPENS TO *ME?*

A GOOD DAY FOR ME MEANS GETTING PUNCHED IN THE FACE BY THE RHINO AND THEN GETTING YELLED AT BY MY *BOSS* FOR TWENTY MINUTES.

FRUIT PIE?

THANKS, PAL.

THE LINCOLN-LOVIN' END!

SPIDER-MAN: FEAR ITSELF ONE-SHOT

PROLOGUE: A SIMPLER TIME...

AUNT MAY?

CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?

OF COURSE, PETER.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

AUNT MAY...

...WHAT'S **FEAR?**

THAT'S A BIG QUESTION, PETER.

FEAR IS A LOT OF THINGS. SOMETIMES, IT'S A PROTECTIVE MECHANISM THAT KEEPS US SAFE FROM DANGER.

OTHER TIMES, IT PARALYZES US-- KEEPS US FROM MOVING AHEAD WITH OUR LIVES.

PEOPLE OFTEN FEEL FEAR FOR THEIR LIVES, OR FOR LOVED ONES. SOMETIMES THOSE FEARS ARE RATIONAL, SOMETIMES NOT.

IT'S HARD TO FACE YOUR FEARS... BUT SOMETIMES, YOU MUST. THEN, AND ONLY THEN, YOU CAN BE AT PEACE WITH THEM.

DO BUGS FEEL FEAR?

I--I SUPPOSE SO, DEAR. ALL ANIMALS DO--

WHAT ABOUT PLANTS? DO PLANTS FEEL FEAR?

NO, PETER.

PLANTS DON'T FEEL FEAR.

UHH...

MAY?

EXCUSE ME, PETER.

AUNT MAY HAS TO TAKE HER HEART MEDICINE...

WORRYWART.

FEAR AND MR. PARKER

STORY: STUART MOORE
ART: JOE SUTTOR
LETTERS: JARED K. FLETCHER

YEARS LATER...

AH--FLORIDA IN JULY.

TRIPLE-DIGIT HEAT--SMOTHERING HUMIDITY--MOSQUITOES THE SIZE OF YOUR HEAD--

--AND A FEW OTHER ANNOYANCES.

PEOPLE SAY YOU'RE--UHH--MINDLESS, MANNY. BUT I'LL GIVE YOU ONE THING--

--YOU SURE KNOW HOW TO RUIN A GUY'S VACATION!

WHEN I BROUGHT AUNT MAY DOWN TO FLORIDA HERE TO VISIT SOME RETIRED FRIENDS, I THOUGHT I'D GET A BREAK FROM THE WEBS.

BUT THEN **MAN-THING** HERE DECIDES TO RUN AMOK--WRECKING POOR PEOPLE'S HOMES ALL ACROSS THE EVERGLADES!

UGGHH!

SO HERE I AM IN A FIGHT. AND IT'S NOT EVEN ONE OF MY **FUN** FIGHTS.

THE MONSTER SMELLS AWFUL--AND WHAT'S WORSE--

--HE'S NOT LAUGHING AT ANY OF MY JOKES.

HEY, MANNY!

HERE'S AN OLD ONE:

WHAT HAS FOUR WHEELS AND FLIES?

WAAMMM

MAN-THING IN A PICKUP TRUCK!

UH-OH--

KID!

GET OUT OF THERE!

IF HE TOUCHES YOU--

--YOU'LL BURN!

KID'S ALL RIGHT. BUT THE CREATURE...

...IT LOOKS ANGRY.

I THINK.

WITH HIM, IT'S HARD TO TELL--

AH-AH, UGLY. THAT WON'T WORK WITH ME.

THAT BURNING TRICK OF YOURS-- IT ONLY WORKS IF I FEEL **FEAR.**

AND WHILE I MAY BE PEEVISH--MIFFLED-- EVEN A WEE BIT **NAUSEATED--**

--I'M JUST NOT AFRAID OF YOU.

THOK

SORRY.

NOW BE A GOOD LITTLE TOTAL-ABOMINATION-OF-NATURE--

AND--

AAHHHH!

OKAY. LESSON LEARNED:

WHEN YOU WEIGH EIGHT HUNDRED POUNDS AND ARE MADE OF RAZOR-SHARP BRAMBLES, **BURNING** IS NOT YOUR ONLY WEAPON.

C-CAUGHT ME BY SURPRISE THERE, UGLY.

BUT YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN NEVER...

...RUNS FROM A FIGHT...?

HEY! WHERE YA GOIN'?

HUH. **HIS** NEIGHBORHOOD, I GUESS--NOT MINE.

HIS RULES.

WHAT'S THE DAMAGE, LUKE?

WE LOST SHOWTIME, HBO, AN' COMEDY CENTRAL, MA.

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE WE STILL GOT ALL TH' ESPN'S. AN' THE NUMBER TWO TV ROOM IS STILL STANDIN'.

PRAISE THE LORD!

STRANGER-- WE SURE APPRECIATE YOU SAVIN' OUR BOY...

JED'S GATOR

WRASSLIN'

...CARE TO JOIN US FOR A PERUVIAN SOCCER RE-BROADCAST?

UH, PASS.

BUT MAYBE YOU CAN TELL ME...

I'VE MET THAT CREATURE BEFORE...BUT HE'S NEVER JUST GONE BERSERK LIKE THAT.

ANY IDEA WHAT MIGHT HAVE CAUSED IT?

BEATS ME.

HE'S BEEN AROUND THE 'GLADES OFF AN' ON FOR A LONG TIME. WE EVEN USED TO FEED 'IM, LIKE A TAME DOG.

MAYBE, AFTER ALL'OSE YEARS ALONE...

...SOMETHIN' INSIDE HIM JUST **SNAPPED.**

FOUR MONTHS LATER...

QUEENS, NEW YORK.

OH, IT'S SO NICE TO BE OUT.

I'D FORGOTTEN HOW PRETTY THE TREES LOOK AGAINST THE STREETLAMPS AT NIGHT...

ONLY YOU WOULD THINK OF THAT, AUNT MAY.

BUT I'M STILL WORRIED ABOUT THIS. VOLUNTEERING AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER MEANS YOU'LL HAVE TO WALK HOME... TWO NIGHTS A WEEK...

DON'T BE SILLY, PETER. I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.

AND NOW THAT I'M LIVING ALONE AGAIN, I NEED TO KEEP BUSY.

I KNOW BETTER THAN TO ARGUE WITH YOU-- BUT I'M STILL GONNA WALK YOU THERE THE FIRST FEW TIMES.

AND I KNOW BETTER THAN TO ARGUE WITH **YOU**...

...WORRY-WART.

AUNT MAY'S ALWAYS BEEN THERE FOR ME... BUT SHE'S NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER.

FUNNY THING. I'VE WORRIED ABOUT HER IN THE PAST... HER HEALTH PROBLEMS, THOSE SCRAPES WITH DOCTOR OCTOPUS. BUT I NEVER REALLY CONSIDERED...

...WHAT WOULD I DO WITHOUT HER?

UH...!

PETER?

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YOU'VE SEEMED A LITTLE... FOGGY LATELY.

I'M FINE. JUST PREOCCUPIED, I GUESS--

UH!

OKAY--NO. NOT PREOCCUPIED.

SPIDER-SENSE.

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK, AUNT MAY.

STAY HERE, OKAY?

THERE'S SOMETHING-- WAITING.

AROUND THIS CORNER--

OH!

THE **CREATURE.** I NEVER CAUGHT UP WITH IT AGAIN, BACK IN FLORIDA.

IT ALMOST NEVER LEAVES THAT SWAMP...

...WHAT'S IT DOING HERE IN NEW YORK?

I SHOULD GO AFTER IT--

PETER?

--BUT I CAN'T.

NOT WITH AUNT MAY OUT HERE.

PETER? WHAT IS IT?

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

YES, AUNT MAY. I'M FINE.

YOU AND ME... WE'RE **BOTH** FINE...

BUT AM I? FINE, I MEAN?

AUNT MAY'S RIGHT...I **AM** IN A FOG...

...YOU'LL LIKE THIS ONE. I'VE BEEN DINING OFF IT FOR YEARS.

...I ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT LUNCH WITH **CARLIE.**

THIS WAS A WHILE AGO...MY FIRST MONTH ON THE JOB, RIGHT?

SOME BIG-TIME GANGSTER--JOHNNY "TAILPIPE" KARAGIAS--DECIDES TO HAVE HIS BIGGEST RIVAL, TONY Z, WHACKED--

--SO HE SENDS HIS GUYS TO TONY'S OFFICE. TONY SEES 'EM COMING, RUNS OUT ON HIS BALCONY. THEY OPEN FIRE--TONY BACKS UP OVER THE EDGE, PLUMMETS EIGHT STORIES STRAIGHT DOWN--

--RIGHT ONTO TAILPIPE'S NEW MERCEDES, WHICH IS PARKED OUTSIDE!

SO TONY LANDS WITH A GIGANTIC SPLAT. BUT TAILPIPE'S GOONS AREN'T SURE HE'S DEAD--

--SO THEY RUN DOWN THERE AND EMPTY A FEW MORE CLIPS INTO HIM, JUST IN CASE!

IS SHE... TELLING A STORY...?

BELIEVE ME, IT WAS A HELL OF A MESS TO CLEAN UP. TOOK BOTH OUR SHIFTS ALL NIGHT.

MEANWHILE, THE RICO GUYS USE THE INCIDENT TO FINALLY GET THE GOODS ON KARAGIAS.

THEY PULL HIM IN, SHOW HIM THE PHOTOS OF TONY LYING SPLATTERED ALL OVER THE MERCEDES.

TAILPIPE JUST SITS THERE, SHAKING HIS HEAD, FOR A LONG MOMENT. AND THEN DO YOU KNOW WHAT HE SAYS?

"DAMMIT.

"I JUST HAD THAT @#?!! CAR **WASHED.**"

"HA HA HA. WOW, CARLIE! THAT WAS HILARIOUS!

"TELL ME ANOTHER STORY ABOUT HAULING BODIES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT!"

OH, NO--

--NOT AGAIN!

YOU...

PETER!

...WHAT DO YOU WANT?

IT'S OKAY, PETER. IT'S LEAVING.

I'LL CALL FOR HELP...

OH.

OH, NO...

OFFICER COOPER HERE. I NEED A BLACK-AND-WHITE **RIGHT NOW** AT TWENTY-SECOND AND SIXTH...

CARLIE. I HAVE TO GO...

WHAT?

I'VE GOT TO...GOT TO...

TAKE SOME PICTURES...?

...PICTURES...

OF THAT THING!

...THING...

PETER... YOU'RE NOT MAKING SENSE. YOU'RE IN SHOCK.

JUST SIT DOWN. THE PATROL CAR WILL BE HERE IN A MINUTE...

NO. CAN'T!

...SORRY...

WHAT--

WHAT--

--WHAT IS HAPPENING TO ME?

I THINK... I NEED A DOCTOR...

...PREFERABLY A **SPECIALIST** IN UNPLEASANT TRANSFORMATIONS.

C. CONNORS, Ph.D.

DOC?

ANY CHANCE... YOU GOT A **WEED-WHACKER** IN THERE...?

...DEFINITELY A FOREIGN ELEMENT IN YOUR BLOOD-STREAM.

THAT CREATURE--THE **MAN-THING**--IS RUMORED TO BE THE RESULT OF AN EXPERIMENT IN CREATING A SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM. FROM WHAT YOU'VE TOLD ME, I'D GUESS YOU ABSORBED A BIT OF THE ORIGINAL SERUM--TRACES OF WHICH MUST STILL REMAIN IN ITS BODY--

--WHEN IT WOUNDED YOU IN FLORIDA, MONTHS AGO.

BUT...LOTS OF PEOPLE HAVE FOUGHT THAT THING WITHOUT GROWING THEIR OWN PERSONAL **HERB GARDEN**...

YES--BUT NONE OF THEM HAVE YOUR ARTIFICIALLY ALTERED DNA.

THE MAN-THING SERUM SEEMS TO HAVE LATCHED ONTO THE ENHANCED MARKERS IN YOUR BLOOD, FROM THE ACCIDENT THAT FIRST GAVE YOU SPIDER-POWERS.

IT'S ALMOST THE OPPOSITE OF MY OWN TRANSFORMATION INTO **THE LIZARD.** THAT CHANGE BROUGHT OUT THE **ANIMAL** PARTS OF MY GENETIC MAKEUP...

...WHILE YOUR ANIMAL TRAITS ARE BEING **SUPPRESSED**... IN FAVOR OF A **PLANT** MATRIX.

SO WHAT... WHAT DO I...

I NEED TIME TO STUDY THE REACTION FURTHER. BUT IN THE MEANTIME...

THIS SHOULD SLOW DOWN THE PROCESS.

IT'S A MIXTURE OF ADRENALINE, METHOTREXATE... AND A VERY, VERY SMALL AMOUNT OF MY ORIGINAL LIZARD SERUM.

THUK

IT SHOULD TEMPORARILY REORIENT YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM, ARRESTING THE INCIPIENT PLANT GROWTH.

TAKE IT AS NEEDED--BUT NO MORE THAN POINT ONE MILLILITER PER HOUR.

I WANT TO RUN YOUR BLOOD THROUGH A FULL SPECTRUM OF TESTS. BUT WHILE I DO--

--WELL--

--LET'S JUST SAY YOU DON'T WANT TO REPEAT MY PAST MISTAKES.

TH- THANKS, DOC...

GO STRAIGHT HOME. I'LL CALL YOU WHEN I'VE GOT THE RESULTS.

AND REMEMBER-- NO MORE THAN 0.1 MILLILITER PER HOUR!

GOT TO FOCUS... THINK. SO HARD TO THINK...

GOOD OLD... DOCTOR CONNORS. HE'LL... FIX THIS...

SOMETHING I HAD TO DO... WHAT WAS IT?

CARLIE? NO. I PROBABLY OWE HER AN APOLOGY, THOUGH.

SHE DOESN'T LIKE TO SHOW IT... BUT SHE GETS HURT SOMETIMES. JUST LIKE AUNT MAY...

AUNT MAY! TONIGHT'S ONE OF HER... VOLUNTEER NIGHTS.

GOT TO GET TO HER... MAKE SURE SHE'S SAFE...

CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT. BUT I SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND AUNT MAY'S PLACE... BY INSTINCT.

LIKE A **PLANT**... STRAINING TOWARD THE LIGHT...

WAIT...

...A PLANT...!

THAT'S IT. SOMEHOW, THE PLANT-MONSTER... THE MAN-THING... IT'S THE KEY TO THIS WHOLE...

BLAST! BETTER TAKE ANOTHER SHOT OF THIS.

HAS IT BEEN AN HOUR?

WHO KNOWS...

THUK

THAT'S... A LITTLE CLEARER.

NOW WHAT WAS I...

OH. RIGHT.

PLANT-MONSTER...

YOU... YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING ME. YOU **WALKED** ALL THE WAY UP HERE FROM FLORIDA...

WHY?

AND FOR THAT MATTER... WHY DIDN'T HE SET OFF MY SPIDER-SENSE, JUST NOW?

IT MUST BE... BECAUSE HE'S NO LONGER A THREAT TO ME.

BECAUSE I'M...

NO!

IS THAT IT?

MY SPIDER-SENSE DOESN'T REGISTER YOU AS A DANGER... BECAUSE I'M BECOMING **JUST LIKE YOU?**

BIP BIP

DOC...?

SPIDER-MAN-- YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME.

I'VE COMPLETED MY TESTS--AND IT'S **NOT** GOOD NEWS.

THE REACTION IS ACCELERATING. WITHIN AN HOUR, IT COULD BECOME **IRREVERSIBLE.**

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO PURGE THE SERUM FROM YOUR BLOODSTREAM IN TIME--

WARNING!

--WE'LL HAVE TO BURN IT OUT ON A MOLECULAR LEVEL.

TEMPORARILY IRRADIATE EVERY CELL IN YOUR BODY.

I'VE GOT SOME EQUIPMENT IN MY LAB. YOU NEED TO GET BACK HERE **RIGHT AWAY.**

THIS WON'T BE EASY-- BUT--

BLIP

AN HOUR. I'LL NEVER MAKE IT.

BUT MAYBE... THERE'S ANOTHER WAY:

"WHATEVER KNOWS **FEAR...**

"...BURNS AT THE MAN-THING'S TOUCH."

I **SHOULD** BE AFRAID. NOT OF THE CREATURE-- BUT OF WHAT I'M TURNING INTO.

THIS REACTION...IT COULD EVEN **KILL** ME.

BUT...I DON'T FEEL AFRAID.

I DON'T FEEL **ANYTHING.**

THE TRANSFORMATION'S TOO FAR ALONG.

THERE'S TOO MUCH **PLANT** IN ME. AND...

"NO, PETER...

"...PLANTS DON'T FEEL FEAR."

THUK

THUK THUK THUK THUK THUK

UHHH!

ADRENALINE, DOC SAID--IN THE FORMULA. SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO RAISE MY PULSE RATE.

BUT...STILL NOTHING. AND IF I CAN'T FEEL FEAR...THEN UGLY HERE CAN'T HELP ME...

W-WAIT.

WHAT **ELSE** DID DOC CONNORS SAY...?

"...YOU DON'T WANT TO REPEAT **MY** PAST MISTAKES..."

NO.

OH, NO...

NO!

I'M BECOMING A PLANT-MONSTER.

I'M BECOMING A LIZARD!

BUT... THAT'S NOT THE WORST OF IT...

AUNT MAY.

SHE'S OUT THERE IN THE NIGHT SOMEWHERE-- ALL ALONE!

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO HER? AND--AND WHAT WILL I DO...

...WITHOUT HER?

SSSSSS

AAAHHHHH!

NGGGHHH!

NNNGG--

OHHHH...

OH... **MAN.** IF I'D KNOWN HOW MUCH THAT WAS GOING TO **HURT**...

THE **FEAR** PART WOULD HAVE COME A **LOT** EASIER...!

THANKS, UGLY...I GUESS.

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING, DO YOU?

BUT WAIT--YOU **RELEASED** ME.

AS SOON AS THE FIRE HAD CLEANSED THE SERUM OUT OF MY BODY...

AS SOON AS I WAS **HUMAN** AGAIN.

MY GOD... **THAT'S** WHY YOU TRACKED ME FOR TWO THOUSAND MILES, ISN'T IT?

BECAUSE AFTER THAT FIRST ENCOUNTER-- ONCE YOU'D INFECTED ME--

--YOU SENSED **ANOTHER PLANT-BEING** COMING INTO EXISTENCE. YOU KNEW INSTINCTIVELY THAT I WAS BECOMING A CREATURE LIKE YOU.

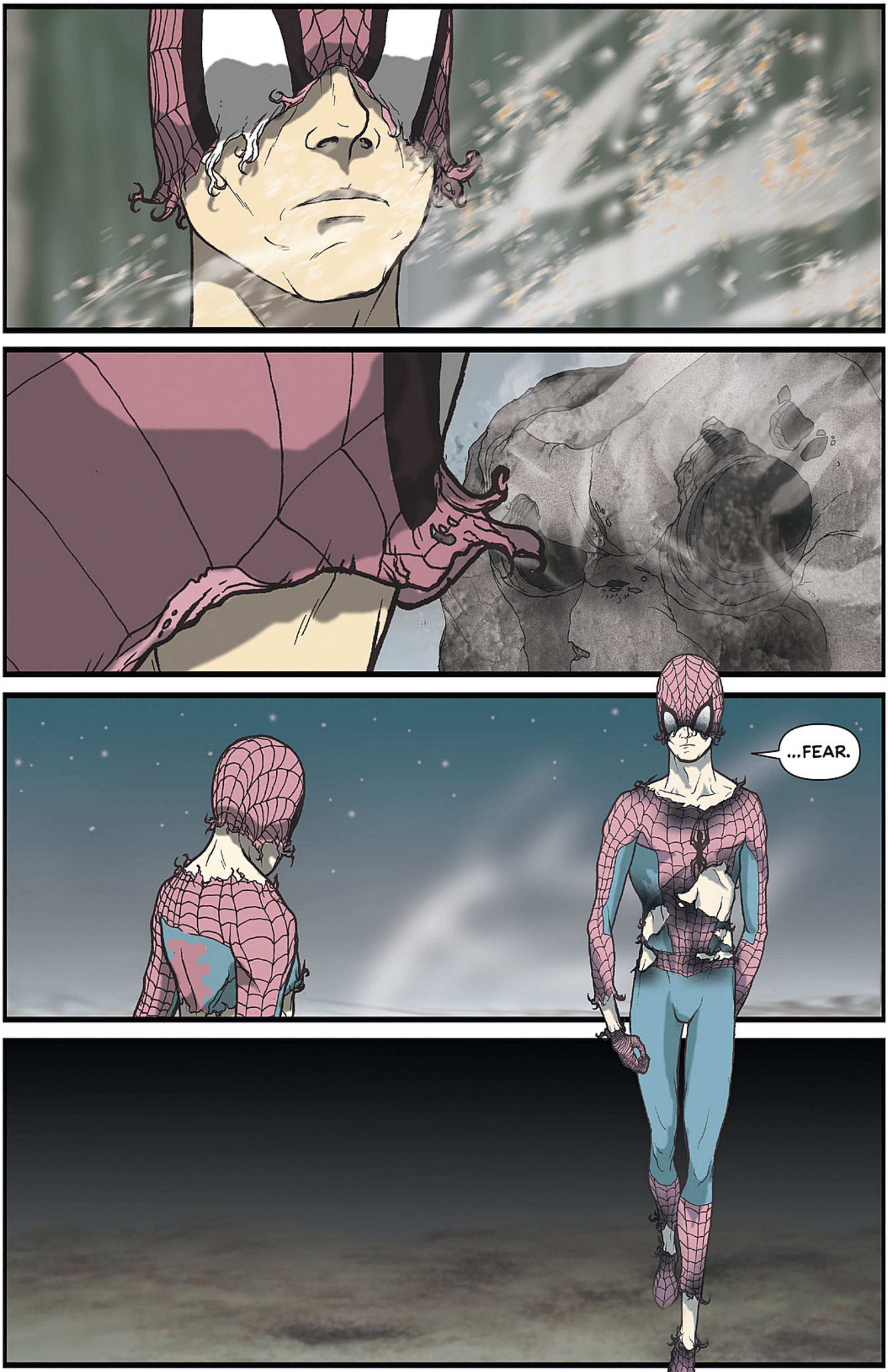
IN THAT HOLLOW MIND OF YOURS... THAT'S THE ONLY THING YOU WANT, ISN'T IT? TO FIND ANOTHER OF YOUR OWN KIND?

AND NOW... NOW THAT THERE'S NO TRACE OF **PLANT** LEFT IN ME...

...THAT HOPE IS GONE.

BEING ALL ALONE IN THE WORLD...

...IT MUST BE YOUR ONLY...


...FEAR.

SOMEHOW, I DOUBT THE MONSTER'S REALLY GONE. IT'S BEEN DESTROYED BEFORE...AND ALWAYS RECONSTITUTED ITSELF IN THAT SAME FLORIDA SWAMP.

DRAWN BACK HOME, I GUESS...

PARKER

I TOLD YOU, PETER--I GOT HOME FINE.

...LIKE A PLANT TO THE LIGHT.

YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY SO MUCH.

MAYBE NOT. BUT AS SOMEBODY ONCE TOLD ME:

"PEOPLE OFTEN FEEL FEAR FOR THEIR LOVED ONES."

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A VERY WISE PERSON.

YEAH.

AND ANOTHER THING SHE SAID--THAT SAME PERSON--HELPED ME OUT TODAY. WITH A... A FRIEND.

"IT'S HARD TO FACE YOUR FEARS.

"BUT SOMETIMES, YOU MUST. THEN... AND ONLY THEN...

"...YOU CAN BE AT PEACE WITH THEM."

END

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: EXTRA! #2

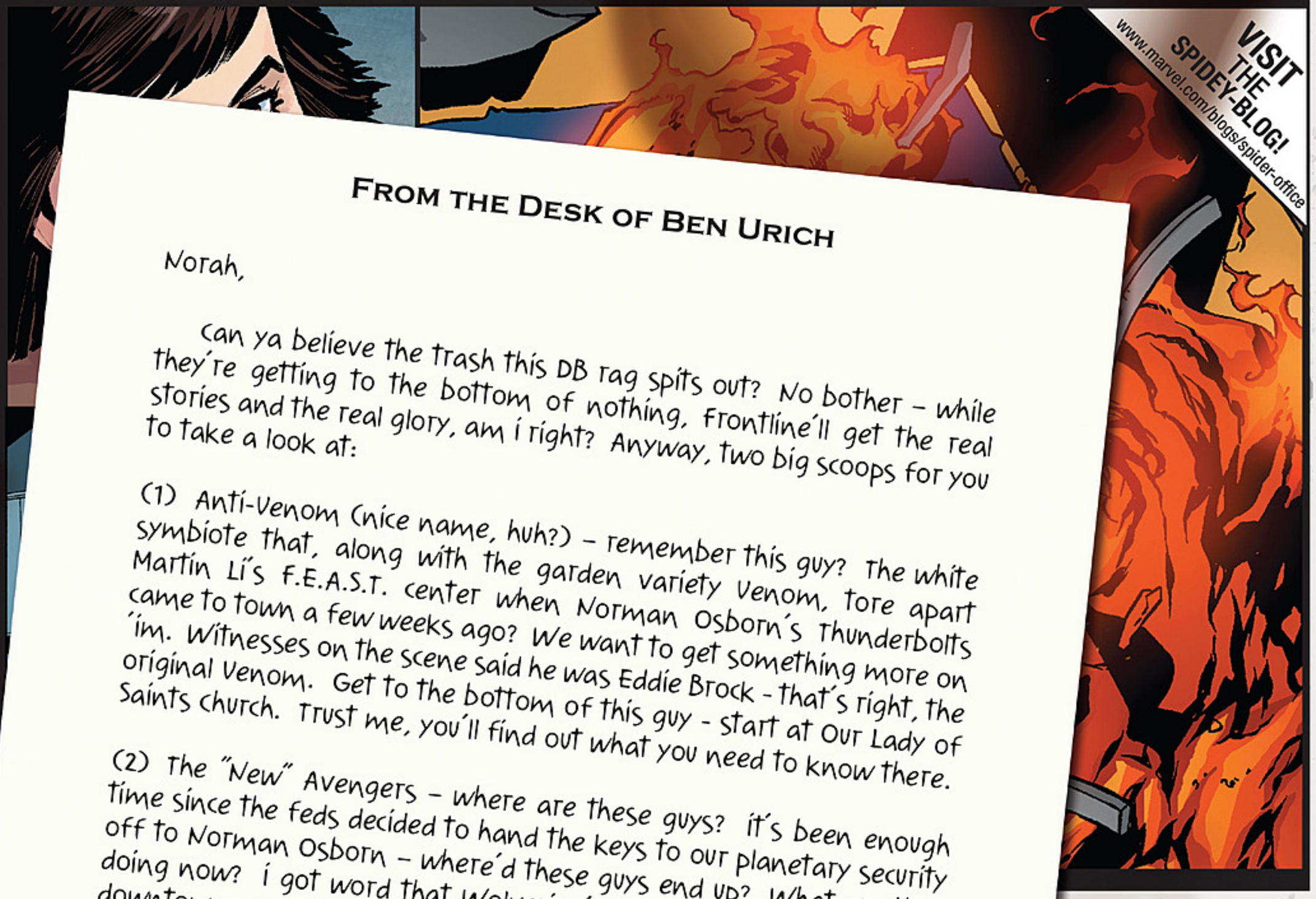
THE DB! FOR EVERY BRAND *NEWS* DAY!

THE DB

JANUARY 28TH, 2009 • WEDNESDAY

ELECTION A WEEK AWAY! HOW WILL NEW YORK VOTE? DB POLL SHOWS THE RACE TIGHTENING UP AS BILL HOLLISTER AND RANDALL CROWNE HEAD FOR A SHOWDOWN TO END ALL SHOWDOWNS! T18

WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE...



FROM THE DESK OF BEN URICH

Norah,

Can ya believe the trash this DB rag spits out? No bother – while they're getting to the bottom of nothing, Frontline'll get the real stories and the real glory, am i right? Anyway, two big scoops for you to take a look at:

(1) Anti-Venom (nice name, huh?) – remember this guy? The white symbiote that, along with the garden variety Venom, tore apart Martin Li's F.E.A.S.T. center when Norman Osborn's Thunderbolts came to town a few weeks ago? We want to get something more on 'im. Witnesses on the scene said he was Eddie Brock - that's right, the original Venom. Get to the bottom of this guy - start at Our Lady of Saints church. Trust me, you'll find out what you need to know there.

(2) The "New" Avengers – where are these guys? it's been enough time since the feds decided to hand the keys to our planetary security off to Norman Osborn – where'd these guys end up? What are they doing now? i got word that Wolverine's been hanging round a bar downtown – maybe he'll bring friends with him next time? i want the name of the hangout and at least a quote or two.

That's all for me, kid. Find out what you can, Winters – i know it's not your usual gossip column stuff, but Paris and Britney can wait for another day. Get to it!

– Urich

CE TIE ER-MAN RECENT RDERS!

IVE TO THE DB!

off-the-record conver- h DB staffers, police med that Spider-Man suspect in the string of murders that has this city. Although ve been reluctant to the specifics of the so-called "Spider Trac- definitely been found victim, leaving no doubt involvement of Spider- pider-Man is already or violations of…

CONTINUED ON A2

THIS IS JENNA. LOCAL GIRL. DON'T KNOW HER LAST NAME. SHE'S A SICK ONE. ALWAYS *SEEING* THINGS.

THINGS IN THE SHADOWS. THINGS OUT TO GET HER.

AHH!

SOMETIMES IT'S SNAKES IN HER HAIR.

THWIP THWIP

SPIDERS CRAWLING ON HER SKIN.

THWIP

THWIP THWIP

NO!

THWIP

TONIGHT, IT'S MONSTERS.

LUCKY FOR HER THAT I'M HERE.

THWIP

I'M HER *GUARDIAN ANGEL.*

SHHH. CALM DOWN. EVERYTHING'S ALL RIGHT.

NOT REAL. JUST FREAKING OUT. THAT'S NOT--

GOT TO HER JUST IN TIME. TUBE TIED AROUND HER ARM...

...BUT I FOUND HER BEFORE SHE COULD SHOOT UP.

YOU'LL BE FINE, JENNA.

I'M GONNA MAKE IT ALL BETTER.

REST.

I WAS FOLLOWING THOSE DRUG DEALERS ALL NIGHT. I'LL FIND 'EM AGAIN.

BUT YOU? I HAD TO SAVE YOU...

UHH...

...BEFORE YOU COULD DUMP ANY MORE OF THEIR JUNK INTO YOUR VEINS.

UGH. IT'S SO *DISGUSTING* IN THERE. ALMOST DONE.

THERE. GET UP. YOU'RE CURED.

WHA- WHAT'D YOU DO TO--

I CLEANSED YOU. I CAST OUT EVERY POISON YOU PUT INTO YOUR BODY. ON YOUR FEET!

WHOA! I-I FEEL...

I DUNNO HOW I FEEL.

THEN I'LL TELL YOU. YOU FEEL REBORN. GOT IT?

OH MY GOD. LOOK AT YOU... THINK I'M STILL TRIPPING.

IT'LL PASS. TAKE THIS.

F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT
EMERGENCY AID
AND TRAINING

YOU'RE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A *FIX*, JENNA.

THIS IS A *REAL* FIX. YOU WANNA CLEAN UP? HEAD DOWN THE RIGHT PATH? THESE PEOPLE'LL HELP.

TH-THANKS.

ONE LIFE AT A TIME. THAT'S HOW I'M GONNA CURE THIS CITY.

THAT'S MY HIGHER CALLING.

MY NAME'S *EDDIE BROCK* AND I'M THE *ANTI-VENOM*.

Our Lady of Saints Church.

THIS IS MY HOME NOW. WHICH IS FITTING...

...BECAUSE, YEARS AGO, THIS WHERE I FIRST FELL FROM GRACE.

BLACK & WHITE

DAN SLOTT
writer
CHRIS BACHALO
pencils
TIM TOWNSEND,
JON SIBAL,
JAIME MENDOZA &
CHRIS BACHALO
inks
ANTONIO FABELA &
CHRIS BACHALO
color
VC'S RUS WOOTON
letters
THOMAS BRENNAN
asst. editor
STEPHEN WACKER
editor
JOE QUESADA
editor in chief
DAN BUCKLEY
publisher

I'D LOST EVERYTHING. MY JOB. MY REPUTATION.

AND INSTEAD OF BLAMING MYSELF, I BLAMED SPIDER-MAN.

I PRAYED FOR VENGEANCE. FOR A WAY TO HURT HIM.

AND THOSE PRAYERS WERE ANSWERED, IN A BAPTISM OF BLACK GOO...

...THE ALIEN SYMBIOTE WHICH TRANSFORMED ME INTO *VENOM!*

FOR YEARS THAT *PARASITE* FED OFF MY HATRED AND MY BODY...

...TILL, BY THE TIME I WAS RID OF IT, ALL THAT WAS LEFT WAS A CANCER-RIDDEN HUSK.

NOT LONG AFTER, I CAME HERE TO PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS. THAT'S WHEN I MET *MARTIN LI.*

HE BROUGHT ME TO HIS F.E.A.S.T. CENTER, GAVE ME A PURPOSE...

...A CHANCE TO HELP THOSE WORSE OFF THAN MYSELF.

IT WAS A PLACE OF HEALING--OF *MIRACLES!*

MIRACLES THAT CURED MY *CANCER!* AND, IN MY GREATEST MOMENT OF NEED...

...WHEN *VENOM* RETURNED FOR ME IN A NEW HOST...

...THEY GRANTED ME THE POWER TO FIGHT BACK! TO REPEL HIS DARKNESS! THEY TRANSFORMED ME INTO *ANTI-VENOM!*

BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY-- THEY RESTORED MY *FAITH.* I BELIEVE AGAIN! AND I WILL NEVER FORGET, I OWE THAT ALL TO MR. LI...

...AND HIS F.E.A.S.T. CENTER.

F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT
FOOD, EMERGENCY AID, SHELTER AND TRAINING

HULLO?

WHY HELLO, DEAR. HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

SOME...GUY GAVE ME THIS CARD...

...SAID YOU COULD...

F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT
FOOD, EMERGENCY AID, SHELTER AND TRAINING

I'M JENNA. JENNA COLE. AND I...

OH THIS'S STUPID. I CAN'T BELIEVE I...

LOOK, I SHOULD GO...

JENNA, PLEASE. I'M MAY PARKER. I'M HERE TO *HELP*. AND I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE.

I KNOW SOMETIMES IT'S HARD TO ASK. IT WAS PROBABLY HARD JUST TO WALK THROUGH THAT DOOR, WASN'T IT?

NOW WHY DON'T YOU SIT DOWN AND TELL ME WHAT'S THE MATTER?

MRS. PARKER? YOU'RE NOT ADMITTING THIS GIRL, ARE YOU?

MR. LI'S MADE IT QUITE CLEAR. WE'RE CURRENTLY AT FULL CAPACITY.

PISH POSH. ENRICO, I'VE BEEN HERE FOR SOME TIME NOW...

...I'VE *NEVER* TURNED A SOUL AWAY, AND I'M NOT ABOUT TO START NOW.

YOU WAIT HERE, JENNA. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

KEN, HAVE YOU SEEN MR. LI?

YEAH. HE'S IN THE WORK-OUT ROOM...

...WITH ALL A' THE NEW GUYS, Y'KNOW, THOSE REFUGEES WE TOOK IN.*

*BACK IN NEW WAYS TO DIE. -SYMBIOTIC STEVE.

HAI!

MARTIN? WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

SINCE WHEN DID WE START TEACHING MARTIAL ARTS?

IT'S *TRAINING*, MRS. PARKER.

SELF-DEFENSE FOR THE WOMEN. SECURITY GUARD WORK FOR THE MEN. SKILLS THEY CAN USE WHEN THEY LEAVE THE SHELTER.

NOW IF YOU DON'T MIND, THIS IS A CLOSED SESSION.

GOOD DAY.

HOW ODD.

EH. NOT REALLY. EVER SINCE THOSE ASIAN GUYS SHOWED UP...

...MR. LI COULDN'T CARE LESS ABOUT THE REST A' US.

YOU STOP THAT TALK RIGHT NOW. MARTIN'S BEEN NOTHING BUT A SAINT WITH US.

THIS PLACE WOULDN'T BE HERE IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM. WE--WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT!

CALL ME A HYPOCRITE, BUT I DON'T THINK EVERYONE DESERVES SECOND CHANCES...

...TAKE THESE SCUMBAGS. DRUG PUSHERS. HAD A LINE ON 'EM EARLIER.

NOT TOO HARD TO FIND 'EM AGAIN. AFTER ALL, THEY GOT A "BUSINESS" TO RUN.

THEY *WANT* TO BE REACHED. WHAT THEY DON'T WANT...

Brooklyn Navy Yard.

...IS FOR SOMEBODY TO FOLLOW 'EM TO THEIR SOURCE.

...LOVE THE MASKS, FELLAS. SAY, IF I THROW IN A FEW MORE BILLS, THINK I COULD GET TWO FOR MY KIDS?

NO. THEY ARE NOT FOR SALE. THOUGH, IF THEY WERE, MR. CURTIS...

...I THINK YOU'D FIND THEIR *PRICE* TOO HIGH. SPEAKING OF PAYMENTS?

IT'S ALL HERE. COUNT IT.

UNNECESSARY. NO MAN CROSSES *MR. NEGATIVE* AND--

THWIP

THWIP

AND WHAT?!

C'MON, TELL ME. I'M DYIN' TO KNOW!

PRECISELY.

CREATURE? YOU'RE THE "CREATURES" HERE!

INNER DEMONS, ATTACK! HONOR TO THE MAN WHO KILLS THIS CREATURE!

YOU'RE VERMIN! PLAGUE CARRIERS! BRINGING YOUR POISON INTO MY CITY!

AND GOD HELP ME, I'LL EXTERMINATE EVERY ONE A' YOU!

THWAP

ARGH!

SLSH

<HAN! ARE YOU--?>

<I'M FINE!>

<STOP WASTING TIME! GET HIM!>

WHAT IN HELL ARE YOU?!

THWAP

THWAK THWAK

THWIP

SPLIKT

SSSSS

RWAA!

HA! THAT'S MORE LIKE IT!

LET'S SEE YOU WALK AWAY FROM THAT!

THWIP THWIP

IT STINGS! LIKE...WHEN I FOUGHT GARGAN.

<HE'S DISTRACTED! GO!>

HOW DID YOU DO THAT?! TELL ME!

TELL ME EVERYTHING!!!

Chinatown.

〈MR. NEGATIVE? I DON'T WISH TO SEEM UNGRATEFUL, SIR, AFTER ALL THAT YOU'VE DONE FOR US...〉

〈...BUT I FLED MY HOMELAND IN SEARCH OF THE FREEDOMS HERE.〉

〈I HAVE NO DESIRE TO BECOME ANY MAN'S SERVANT. EVEN ONE AS GENEROUS AS YOURSELF.〉

〈I UNDERSTAND, MEI-LI.〉

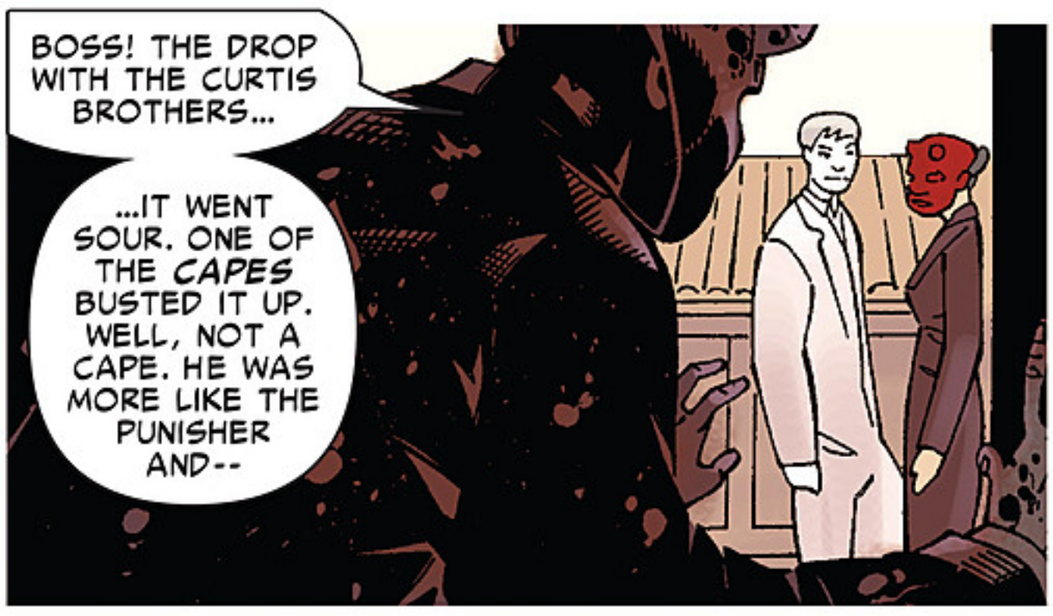
〈BECOMING ONE OF MY INNER DEMONS? IT'S A LOT TO ASK OF YOU. I KNOW. BUT PERHAPS...〉

〈...IF YOU TRIED LOOKING AT IT...〉

〈...FROM MY POINT OF VIEW.〉

‹AMERICA, THIS "LAND OF THE FREE," IT HASN'T BEEN GOOD TO YOU SO FAR. HAS IT?›
‹LOCKED UP IN A SWEATSHOP. EXPERIMENTED ON AT OSCORP.›
‹FORGET ALL THAT I'VE DONE FOR YOU. WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO PAY THEM BACK FOR THEIR KINDNESS?›

‹TONIGHT, MY INNER DEMONS ARE HIJACKING AN OSCORP SUPPLY TRUCK. IF YOU WISH...›
‹...YOU COULD JOIN THEM.›
YES.


BOSS! THE DROP WITH THE CURTIS BROTHERS...
...IT WENT SOUR. ONE OF THE *CAPES* BUSTED IT UP. WELL, NOT A CAPE. HE WAS MORE LIKE THE PUNISHER AND--

YOU'RE ALONE. WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?
STILL BACK THERE. I THOUGHT YOU'D WANT TO--

BLAM

THIS IS MOST UNFORTUNATE.
SOME OF THEM KNEW ABOUT TONIGHT'S RAID.

WE'LL HAVE TO HURRY. ARE YOU COMING?
OW. YEAH. ONE SEC.

The New Jersey Turnpike.

DANG, WHAT A MESS! CAN YOU FELLAS HEAR ME? I CALLED FOR HELP, SHOULD BE ON ITS WAY.

LORD, THAT AIN'T PRETTY.

YOU ALIVE IN THERE? ANYTHING I CAN DO TO--

YEAH. HAND OVER THE KEYS.

AND THE HAT. LOSE THE HAT.

HEY!

FWIP

<WHAT? SHENG, WHY ARE YOU TAKING HIS HAT?>

<YOU SAW THE THING. I WAS DOING HIM A FAVOR. THIS IS SHENG, COME IN. WE HAVE THE TRUCK. WHAT?>

< BACK UP IS ON THE WAY? WHY DO WE NEED-->

AHHH!!

HSSS!

SORRY, YOUR FRIENDS COULDN'T MAKE IT--

--THEY'RE DEAD!

KRAH

<DO SOMETHING!>

<I'M ON IT.>

RRGHWAP

GNHH

RNKUNHH

IF IT ISN'T EDDIE BROCK. ANTI-VENOM.

AND YOU MUST BE MR. NEGATIVE. BUT HOW DID YOU--?

OH, I KNOW *ALL* ABOUT YOU, EDDIE. FOR INSTANCE...

...I KNOW ABOUT YOUR RECENT TROUBLES WITH OSBORN. I'M OUT TO GET HIM TOO. *THAT* IS AN OSCORP TRUCK...

...FILLED WITH HIS DRUGS, HIS MERCHANDISE. LET MY MEN TAKE IT, AND HE'S THE ONE WHO'LL GET HURT.

PLEASE. I KNOW BLACK FROM WHITE.

THIS CITY'S A LIVING, BREATHING ORGANISM.

AND EVERYTHING *YOU* DO HURTS THE BODY AND POISONS THE MIND.

AND I WILL *END* YOU!

ALL RIGHT THEN. THE HARD WAY. INNER DEMONS...

...GO TO WORK!

GWRAAAK

CAN'T LASH OUT! CAN'T CUT INTO THEM!

HOWEVER THEY HEAL THEMSELVES, THEY MAKE THAT TOXIN...

...THE SAME ONE GARGAN ALMOST *KILLED* ME WITH!

ONE AT A TIME I COULD USE MY POWERS AND SMOTHER THEM...

PUMF

WAKK

WAM

WAM

WAM

...BUT THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM!

WAM

WAM

WAM

WAM

WAM

WAM

TOO MANY...

BOSS! I THINK YOU SHOULD GET OVER HERE.

HE'S--HE'S GONE.

IMPOSSIBLE.

FAN OUT.

FIND HIM!

ZHAO! STAY WITH THE TRUCK.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

WELL, I'M IN DISGUISE...

PUNT

AND I'M STEALING YOUR TRUCK.

THERE WAS NO WAY I'M RETURNING THIS STUFF TO A CREEP LIKE OSBORN.

NOT WHEN I KNOW A PLACE THAT COULD USE IT TO HELP PEOPLE WHO ARE SICK AND CAN'T AFFORD EXPENSIVE TREATMENTS.

OSCORP ENTERPRISES

BESIDES, WHAT'S THE POINT OF BEING A FUGITIVE IF I CAN'T PLAY "ROBIN HOOD" EVERY NOW AND THEN?

IT'S A SHAME I GOTTA DO THIS ON THE SLY.

WE'LL FIND HIM. I PROMISE.

'CAUSE I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO SEE THE LOOK ON MARTIN LI'S--

YOU'D BETTER. NOW GO.

MR. NEGATIVE?!

I HAVE... BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO.

WHAT'S HE DOING...

FASH

...HERE?

MARTIN LI?!

KRSCH

OH MY. WHAT ON EARTH...?
HELLO?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

ALL I HAVE IS MY FAITH. AND IF MARTIN LI IS--

IF THIS IS ALL SOME BIG LIE--

I HAVEN'T BEEN BLESSED AT ALL! HAVE I?

WHAT IF THERE IS NO HIGHER CALLING?!!

WHAT IF I'M JUST SOME SELF-RIGHTEOUS, RAVING--

RWARRR!

I KNOW NOW.

I KNOW THE TRUTH BEHIND MARTIN LI.

I'M THE ONLY ONE. AND NO ONE WILL EVER BELIEVE ME, BECAUSE I'M...I'M...

I'M A MONSTER.

The End.

New York City.
11:15 PM.
HEY? YOU THERE?
FREEZING...
COME ON, MAN. IT'S COLD!
QUIT YOUR WHININ', BUB.
THIS ISN'T GONNA TAKE LONG.

YOU MIND TELLING ME WHAT "*THIS*" IS?

NEED YOUR HELP WITH SOMETHING. LIKE I SAID.

FIGGERED I COULD COUNT ON YOU. LIKE *YOU* SAID.

WELL, YEAH, OF COURSE, BUT--

LOOK, I REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED LAST TIME WE PLAYED IN THE SNOW TOGETHER. YOU LEFT ME TO TRUDGE THREE MAYAN "NINJAS" TWO MILES ACROSS TOWN.

HEH. THAT'S RIGHT. HOW'D THAT ALL TURN OUT, BY THE WAY?

REALLY BAD.

SORRY TO HEAR THAT.

LOOKS LIKE WE GOT A LITTLE TIME. WANNA GRAB A DRINK?

WHAT, YOU MEAN HERE? THIS DIVE?

BEATS SITTIN' IN THE COLD.

I GUESS... MY HANDS *ARE* FREEZING.

WAIT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

CHANGING.

BUT--OH, COME ON. I CAN'T CHANGE. YOU KNOW THAT.

IF WE'RE BOTH IN COSTUME, WE'RE A TEAM. IF IT'S JUST ME, I'M A JERK.

THEN TAKE IT OFF. I WON'T TELL.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.
NO, YOU'RE SCARED. I GET IT.
I'M NOT SCARED... BUT I'D BE SCREWED IF CERTAIN PEOPLE--
IS THAT FREAKIN' SPIDER-MAN?
YOU'RE KIDDIN' ME.
--KNEW WHO I WAS...
BOTTLE OF WHISKY. *CANADIAN* WHISKY.
WE GOT A PROBLEM, HERE, GENTLEMEN?
I DON'T KNOW, BUB. WE GOT A PROBLEM?
WE DO IF YOU THINK SPIDER-MAN CAN JUST COME TRAIPSIN' INTO THIS BAR.
HEY, REALLY... I'M NOT--
EH, HE'S JUST DRESSED FOR A BIRTHDAY PARTY. YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM.
WHAT, HE'S LIKE A CLOWN OR SOMETHING?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT. HE'S A CLOWN.

HEAR THAT, EVERYBODY? I'M A *CLOWN.* NO PROBLEM HERE.

C'MON, PAULIE. LET IT GO. WE'RE CELEBRATIN'.

IS HE FUNNY? THE CLOWN?

*EH...*HE *THINKS* HE IS.

THAT GUY WAS LOOKING FOR A FIGHT. WE MIGHT HAVE PICKED THE WRONG BAR.

GUYS LIKE THAT MAKE IT THE *RIGHT* BAR IN MY BOOK.

IF YOU SAY SO...

NOW, WHY EXACTLY DID I NEED TO MEET YOU TONIGHT?

IT CAN WAIT A FEW MINUTES. RELAX.

RELAX. MY HEALING FACTOR'LL PROCESS THE HOOCH ALMOST FASTER'N I CAN DRINK IT.

WANNA TASTE? IT'LL WARM YOU UP.

I DON'T DRINK...

THAT WOULD BE EASIER IF MY "*TEAMMATE*" WASN'T ABOUT TO DRAIN AN ENTIRE BOTTLE OF WHISKY.

I MEAN, WITH THE SPIDER-STRENGTH AND EVERYTHING, I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE.

OH, GOD. YOU'RE DRUNK.

HEH. YOU AN' YOUR RESPONSBILITY.

YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR PROLEM IS? I'M GONNA TELL YA.

YOUR PROLEM IS YOU ALWAYS GOTTA BE THE GOOD GUY. AN' THASS HARD...BEING GOOD ALL THE TIME...

I USED TO THINK I WAS A GOOD GUY. BUT THEN YOU GET OLDER AND LEARN YOU MIGHT NOT BE ALL THAT GOOD...

...FIND THAT YOU'VE BROKEN EVERY PROMISE YOU EVER MADE TO YOURSELF, AND--

EH, WHAT'S THE USE...

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

YEAH, I'M FINE. JUST A LITTLE HUNG OVER...

WHAT WAS I SAYING?

OH, YEAH... MY POINT IS, YOU CAN'T BE THE GOOD GUY ALL THE TIME.

I...I'M NOT. I MEAN, IF YOU KNEW SOME OF THE STUFF, LATELY...

YOU GOT SOMETHIN' YOU NEED TO GET OFF YOUR CHEST? WHAT HAPPENED? LAY IT ON ME.

WELL, I KISSED MY BEST FRIEND'S GIRL, FOR ONE THING. AND IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT JUST HAPPENED, YOU KNOW?

I MEAN, I LIKE HER A LOT. I *WANTED* TO KISS HER. I'VE WANTED TO FOR A LONG TIME, BUT IT COULD CAUSE SO MANY PROBLEMS WITH MY FRIEND.

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE EVER BEEN THERE, BUT--

HA! BEEN THERE? BUB, I USED TO *LIVE* THERE.

BUT WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO? A MAN WANTS WHAT HE WANTS. BEEN THAT WAY SINCE THE BIBLE...

I CHASED JEAN FOR YEARS, AND LEMME TELL YOU, IT DIDN'T DO A WHOLE LOT FOR ME AN' SCOTT'S RELATIONSHIP...

BUT WHAT CAN I SHAY? I'VE ALWAYS HAD A THING FOR REDHEADS...

YEAH, ME TOO, I--

WHOA! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

HEY, DARLIN'...

YOU IDIOT! MAYBE HE DIDN'T SEE YOU.

YOU LOOKIN' AT SOMETHIN', PAL?!

OH, GOSH...

YOU AN' YOUR CLOWN TRYIN' TA GET FRESH WITH MY GIRL?!

KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN... HEAD'S KILLIN' ME.

LOGAN. SIT DOWN. I'LL HANDLE THIS.

ALL RIGHT, BUDDY! PAULIE'S A REGULAR. YOU TAKE YOUR CLOWN AND GET OUT OF HERE!

I LIKE IT HERE. AND MY CLOWN'S HANDS ARE COLD.

TAKE A HIKE OR I'M GONNA PUT TWELVE OUNCES OF METAL INTO YOUR FACE.

OH, HEY...*HA HA*...IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT, AM I RIGHT LOGAN--

WHOA--!

CLANG

WAIT--!

CRACK

PAULIE!

HE'S ALL RIGHT! HE'S FINE! NO HARM, NO FOUL...RIGHT, FELLAS?!

+SIGH+

SMASH

WHOA THERE, FELLA!

SORRY ABOUT THIS, REALLY. HE'S USUALLY--

CRASH

ACTUALLY, I CAN'T LIE...

HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

THAT IT?

SLOSH

YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOU'RE MESSIN' WITH...

LET'S JUST GO, BABY... YOU'RE HURT.

YOU DON'T KNOW...

YEAH, YEAH.

WHAT WAS THAT?!

JUST BLOWING OFF SOME STEAM. YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE.

NO, I DON'T. AND YOU KNOW WHY?

BECAUSE I DON'T MIX HEROICS WITH *GRAIN ALCOHOL!*

WILL YOU SIT DOWN?

YOU'RE A ***SUPER HERO***, MAN. DO YOU REALLY THINK THIS IS APPROPRIATE? PEOPLE EXPECT BETTER OF YOU. I EXPECT BETTER OF YOU, HONESTLY.

NOW, YOU TOLD ME YOU NEEDED ME FOR SOMETHING, ARE YOU GOING TO--

I DO NEED YOU FOR SOMETHING.

I NEED YOU TO SIT HERE.

WITH ME.

AND WAIT.

THIS DOESN'T MEAN I'M NOT DISAPPOINTED IN YOU.

I KNOW, I KNOW. YOU THINK THAT LITTLE FIGHT WAS STUPID AND--

IT WAS STUPID.

MAYBE, BUT LISTEN. MY LIEUTENANT IN WW TWO USED TO TELL A STORY ABOUT SITUATIONS LIKE THIS.

IT'S ABOUT A GOOD GUY, LIKE YOU. HE GREW UP POOR, THOUGH, AROUND PEOPLE LIKE HIM. PEOPLE WHO DRESSED A LITTLE SHABBY, BUT GOOD PEOPLE NONETHELESS.

BUT HE DECIDED HE WAS MEANT FOR SOMETHIN' BETTER. HE WASN'T GONNA SETTLE FOR ANY PLAIN WOMAN LIKE HIS POPS HAD. HE WAS GONNA MARRY A BEAUTY...NOTHIN' SHORT OF A KNOCKOUT.

SO HE STAYED AWAY FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD GIRLS, EVEN THOUGH SOME OF 'EM WOULDA BEEN HAPPY TO SHOW 'IM A THING OR TWO. BUT HE WAITED.

MONTHS OF WAITIN' TURNED INTO YEARS AND PEOPLE STARTED TO TALK. BUT HE DIDN'T CARE. HE WAS WAITIN' FOR HIS PERFECT GIRL. A STUNNER.

AND ONE DAY, WHAT DO YOU KNOW, HE FOUND HER. EVERYTHING HE'D HOPED FOR. SMOOTH SKIN, BIG EYES... A *KNOCKOUT.*

HE CHASED HER LIKE HIS LIFE DEPENDED ON IT, AND SHE MUST'VE SEEN SOMETHING IN HIS ENTHUSIASM, BECAUSE EVENTUALLY SHE RELENTED.

THIS WAS IT. HIS BIG MOMENT. AND YOU KNOW WHAT? HE HAD NO IDEA WHAT TO DO. HE KISSED HER WITH A DRY MOUTH, FUMBLED WITH THINGS HE SHOULDN'T HAVE, AND BEFORE HE KNEW IT, THE WHOLE THING WAS OVER.

THE BEAUTY, UNSATISFIED, LEFT HIM STUNNED AND ALONE, WISHIN' HE'D LET A FEW OF THOSE PLAIN JANES TEACH HIM A THING OR TWO.

OKAY, I MAY HAVE WAITED LONGER THAN MOST, BUT I NEVER HEARD ANY COMPLAINTS, OKAY?

IT'S AN *ANALOGY,* YOU CHUMP. IT MEANS THAT YOU MIGHT NOT THINK EVERY FIGHT IS WORTH FIGHTIN', BUT IF YOU'RE TOO PICKY YOU MIGHT NOT BE READY FOR THE ONES THAT ARE.

AND YOU BETTER BELIEVE *I'M* GONNA BE READY, BUB.

ARE YOU?

OKAY, I SEE WHAT YOU'RE SAYING, BUT--

UH-OH.

THWIP
BLAM

SON OF A--

WHA--?

Y-YOU'RE NOT A CLOWN?

YOU SEE ME SMILING?

CRASH

GET UP.

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE...

WHAT? THAT TONIGHT YOU PICKED *TWO* FIGHTS YOU COULDN'T WIN?

N-NO...

GRRRRRRRRR...

GRRRRRRRRR...

UH-OH.

SNIKT

SNIKT

RARRRRRRRGHHH!!!

THAP

THAP

GRRRRRRR!!

NO! LOGAN! NO!

GYARRGHGHH!!!

LOGAN! IT'S ME! I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU DO IT...

OUTTA MY WAY, 'LESS YOU WANNA GET CUT, TOO!

I'M YOUR FRIEND, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HURT ME...

THIS ISN'T ONE OF THE IMPORTANT ONES, OKAY? LET IT GO...

SORRY.

SNAKT

SNAKT

HEY, MAN, YOU JUST GOT SHOT IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD. IT'S OKAY TO GET MAD.

I WAS MORE THAN MAD.

AW, I KNEW YOU WEREN'T GOING TO HURT ANYBODY.

WHATEVER YOU SAY.

LOOK, THIS NIGHT'S GOTTEN WAY OUT OF HAND.

CAN I--

SHUT UP.

THWIP

HOW MUCH LONGER DO I NEED TO STICK AROUND? THE SOONER WE CAN CALL IT A NIGHT, THE BETTER.

IT'S 12:08. YOU CAN GO.

MY BIRTHDAY'S OVER.

Y-YOUR BIRTHDAY?!

THE BIG EMERGENCY YOU NEEDED ME FOR WAS YOUR BIRTHDAY?!

I NEEDED A DRINKIN' BUDDY.

I DON'T DRINK! ISN'T THERE SOMEONE IN THE X-MEN YOU COULD HAVE HUNG OUT WITH?

THE X-MEN ARE FAMILY...

RIGHT. THAT'S WHO YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE WITH ON YOUR BIRTHDAY.

THE X-MEN'D DIE FOR ME, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM... BUT THEY HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT WHO I AM...

WHAT I AM...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, LOGAN-- COME ON, TALK TO ME.

WHY'D IT HAVE TO BE ME?

BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D DO IT.

WHAT?

BACK THERE, YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D KILL THAT GUY.

IT'S LIKE YOU SAID, YOU EXPECT BETTER FROM ME.

NOT MANY PEOPLE DO. 'SPECIALLY THOSE I'VE FOUGHT WITH.

YOU'RE A GOOD GUY.

AND YOU'RE DUMB ENOUGH TO THINK I AM TOO.

THAT'S WHY.

OH.

THANKS...

I GUESS...

HEY, SORRY ABOUT THE MESS...

LET ME HELP CLEAN UP A LITTLE...

BIRTHDAY BOY

ZEB WELLS
writer
PAOLO RIVERA
art
VC'S RUS WOOTON
letters
THOMAS BRENNAN
asst. editor
STEPHEN WACKER
editor
JOE QUESADA
editor in chief
DAN BUCKLEY
publisher

IT STARTS HERE!

REVELATIONS!

RESOLUTIONS!

AND A *Romance...*

...THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING!

JR JR '08

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #584

WELCOME BACK. I'M MICHAEL LEVIN.

TWO IN ONE

AND I'M SAMARA SAFFIAN.

AND YOU'RE WATCHING "TWO-IN-ONE," THE PROGRAM THAT TAKES A HARD-HITTING LOOK AT BOTH SIDES OF THE ISSUES THAT HIT HARDEST.

TODAY'S ISSUE, NEW YORK CITY'S MAYORAL RACE.

POLLS OPEN TWO DAYS FROM NOW, MICHAEL.

AND IT'S BOUND TO BE A NAIL BITER BETWEEN THE TWO CANDIDATES.

YOU'VE GOT THAT RIGHT. EVER SINCE RANDALL CROWNE STAKED HIS POLITICAL REPUTATION ON THE END OF THE SO-CALLED "SPIDER-TRACER KILLINGS" LAST MONTH,* HIS OPPONENT BILL HOLLISTER HAS SUFFERED AN ODD REVERSAL OF POLITICAL FORTUNE.

RANDALL CROWNE

*"LAST MONTH" A.K.A. ASM #571 --WONKISH WACKER

IT'S ALMOST UNFAIR, SAMARA, BUT IT SEEMS THAT WITH CROWNE BEING PERCEIVED AS TAKING A STANCE AGAINST THE TRACER KILLINGS...

TWO IN ONE

...THEY'VE BECOME AN ALBATROSS AROUND HOLLISTER'S POLITICAL NECK.

MAYBE THE ONLY CERTAINTY IN POLITICS, MICHAEL, IS THAT...

"...THE VOTERS ARE NEVER CERTAIN."

SO WHO'RE YOU GONNA VOTE FOR?

1:03 AM. 53 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.

ARE YOU KIDDING, BOOMERANG? I'M NOT VOTING.

WHY NOT?

OH, I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE I'M A...OH, WHAT'S THE TERM, YOU KNOW...A...A *SUPER-VILLAIN.*

BESIDES I GOT WAYLAID BY THE SPIDER DOIN' THAT SUBWAY THING AND I AIN'T EXACTLY BEEN KEEPING UP WITH CURRENT EVENTS.

YOU STILL GOT A RIGHT TO VOTE, DUDE. YOUR SECRET *IDENTITY* DOES, AT LEAST.

YEAH, WELL, MY SECRET IDENTITY COULD GIVE A $#%?.

C'MON, SHOCKER, WHERE'S YOUR SENSE OF CIVIC DUTY?

ARE YOU SERIOUS?

DUDE, THOUSANDS OF MEN AND WOMEN ARE DYING IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN RIGHT NOW TO PRESERVE *DEMOCRACY.*

YOU DON'T VOTE, IT'S LIKE YOU'RE TELLING THEM EVERYTHING THEY'RE SACRIFICING DOESN'T MATTER.

FINE. MAKE YOU HAPPY, I'LL VOTE FOR WHICHEVER ONE'S *SOFTER* ON CRIME.

WELL, UNLESS SPIDER-MAN'S ARRESTED SOON, THAT WOULD BE *HOLLISTER.*

BOOKIE!

BOOKIE, WE HIT THE OVER/UNDER ON THE CAPTAIN AMERICA/BATROC FIGHT AND WE'RE HERE TO COLLECT.

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK

THREE LARGE APIECE, MAN. DON'T MAKE ME TAKE IT OUTTA YOUR HIDE.

MAYBE HE'S NOT HERE.

HE'S HERE. I BET YOU HE'S SHORT AND CAN'T PAY US. IN WHICH CASE, I'M GOING TO...

PART 1

MARC GUGGENHEIM WRITER | JOHN ROMITA JR. PENCILS | KLAUS JANSON INKS | DEAN WHITE COLORS
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TOM BREVOORT EXECUTIVE EDITOR | JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF | DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
GALE, GUGGENHEIM & SLOTT SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

...KILL HIM.

One Anonymous 911 Call Later.

WHAT'RE YOU THINKING, STACY?

WHAT, YOU MEAN APART FROM THE FACT THAT WHOEVER DID THIS PERFORMED A PUBLIC SERVICE?

CSU

YEAH, I WAS THINKING SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF CAUSE OF DEATH.

WELL, IT'LL TAKE AN AUTOPSY TO KNOW FOR SURE, BUT I'M THINKING BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA.

THAT'S WHAT I'M THINKING, TOO.

MOTIVE-WISE, YOU'VE GOTTA FIGURE IT'S WHOEVER OWES THE MOST MONEY TO HIM.

CSU FIND HIS BETTING BOOK YET?

YEAH. HE KEPT EVERYTHING ON A BLACKBERRY, BUT IT'S ALL ENCRYPTED.

SO IT MIGHT BE A WHILE BEFORE WE CRACK THE CODE AND GET A LIST OF SUSPECTS.

ACTUALLY, BRETT, I DON'T THINK IT'S GONNA TAKE THAT LONG.

AND I DON'T THINK WE'LL NEED A *LIST*.

CROWNE'S ABOUT TO PULL EVEN IN THE FINAL POLLS GOING INTO ELECTION DAY.

WHAT DO YOU THINK HOLLISTER NEEDS TO DO TO WIN IN TWO DAYS, MICHAEL?

GOOD QUESTION, SAMARA. AT THIS POINT, THE ONLY THING THAT MIGHT WORK IN HOLLISTER'S FAVOR IS THE IDEA THAT WHILE CROWNE'S BEEN VIEWED AS **REACTIONARY**, MAKING PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS AND SENDING THE **THUNDERBOLTS** AFTER SPIDER-MAN, HOLLISTER'S BEEN CALMLY ADVISING A "STAY THE COURSE" APPROACH.

THE PROBLEM WITH "STAY THE COURSE," HOWEVER, IS THAT AT SOME POINT THE "COURSE" HAS TO PAY OFF.

WHICH MEANS THAT BILL HOLLISTER NEEDS TO ORDER UP A MIRACLE--A.K.A. THE ARREST OF SPIDER-MAN AND PRONTO--IF HE'S TO HAVE **ANY** HOPE OF STOPPING CROWNE'S PRE-ELECTION DAY SURGE.

"NOW HERE'S SOMETHING THAT'LL COME AS A BIG SURPRISE..."

...I'M NOT A SERIAL KILLER!

I LIKE... NAY *LOVE* CEREAL! FRUIT LOOPS IS MY FAVORITE!

THEN AGAIN, LUCKY CHARMS ISN'T SO BAD, EITHER.

BELIEVE ME, I'M A FIRM BELIEVER THAT EVERY RED-BLOODED AMERICAN KID SHOULD START HIS DAY WITH A HALF-POUND OF SUGAR, MAGIC MARSHMALLOWS AND A SPASTIC LEPRECHAUN WHO WANTS TO STEAL YOUR BREAKFAST.

IT'S PROBABLY TOO MUCH TO HOPE THOSE ARE MARSHMALLOW BULLETS, RIGHT?

SHAK

AAGH--!

DEFINITELY *NOT* MARSHMALLOWS.

ANHH...

NO. C'MON, DON'T LET ME GO OUT LIKE THIS...

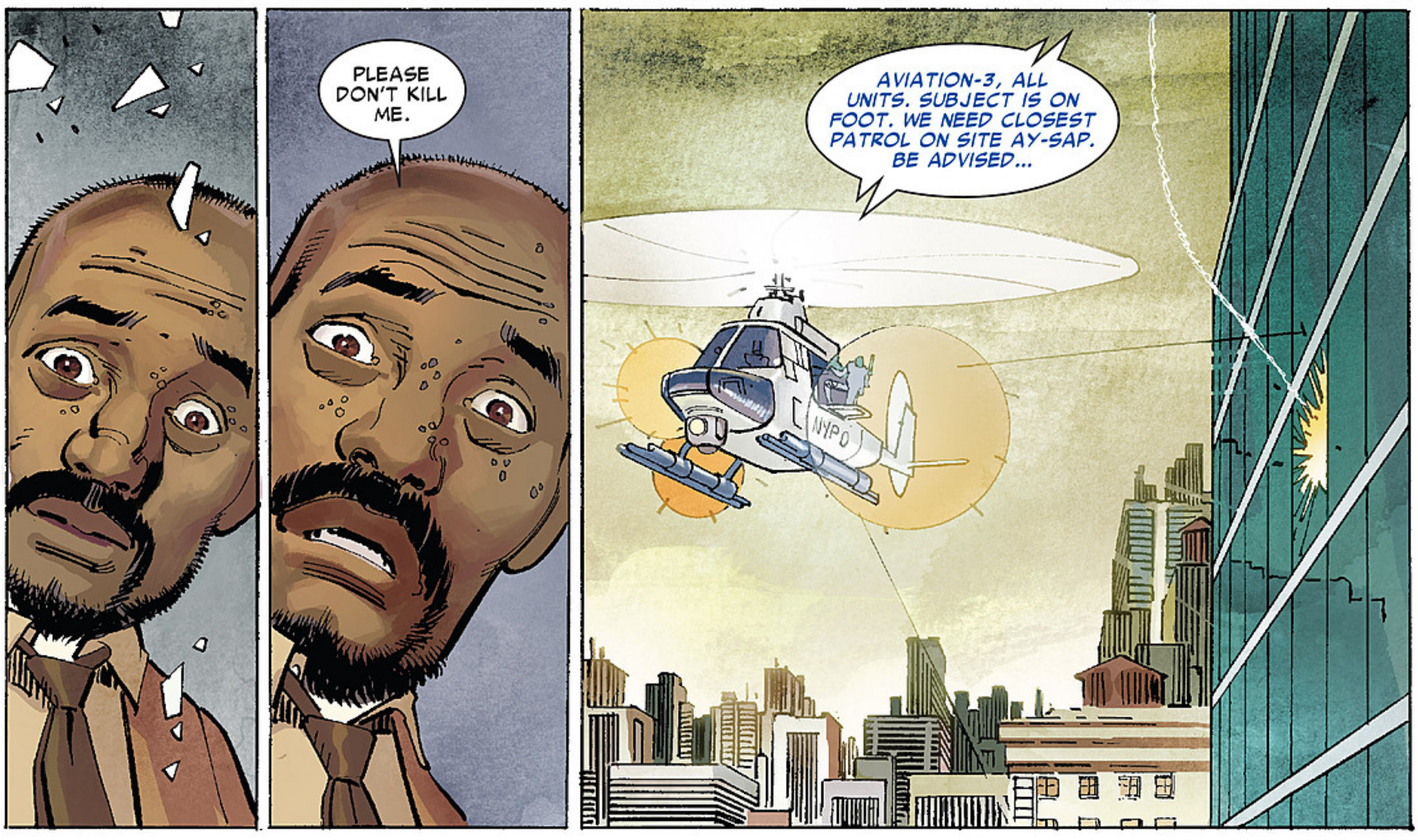
THWIP

THWAP

THANK THE BEYONDER!

GAHH...

SPIDER-MAN
...GNNNNF!
OH, MAN... PLATE GLASS HURTS A LOT MORE THAN REAL GLASS.
SPIDER-MAN!


PLEASE DON'T KILL ME.
AVIATION-3, ALL UNITS. SUBJECT IS ON FOOT. WE NEED CLOSEST PATROL ON SITE AY-SAP. BE ADVISED...
NYPD

"...SUBJECT IS WOUNDED."

HE'S GOING TO KILL US ALL!!!!

...DON'T TEMPT ME...

THERE HE IS!

MIDTOWN NORTH PORTABLE TO CENTRAL K, WE'VE GOT HIM.

WHY *CAN'T* THERE *NOT* BE A COP AROUND WHEN YOU NEED ONE?

LET'S SEE... E-MAIL, E-MAIL, JUNK E-MAIL, WON'T-REPLY-TO-THIS-EVER E-MAIL...

C'MON, C'MON...

EXCUSE ME.

FREEZE!

SORRY, BUT SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK SO.

DAMMIT!

WHAT'S WITH YOU, MISTER? YOU COULD'VE AT LEAST *TRIPPED* HIM OR SOMETHING.

SORRY, PAL. STOPPING THE BAD GUYS IS *YOUR* JOB.

HANNAH, I GOT THE DOORS OPEN. COVER ME!

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST! YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN...

...SILENT.

DAMN!

MEMO TO ALANIS MORISSETTE: *THAT* WAS IRONIC.

HEH. THAT'S... THAT'S...

...FUNNY...

FUMP

"HE'S DEAD."

HOLLISTER? I THINK HE'S GONNA PULL IT OUT, CARLIE.

NOT UNLESS SOMEONE ORDERS UP A MIRACLE AND WE CATCH SPIDER-MAN, JULIAN.

I HEARD A FEW OF THE GUYS NEARLY GOT HIM EARLIER TODAY.

WHAT'S WITH THE *PESSIMISM*, ANYWAY? AREN'T YOU, LIKE, BFF'S WITH HOLLISTER'S DAUGHTER?

Lab of Julian Beck.

NYPD CRIME SCENE UNIT.

WELL, THEN, MULTIPLE CHOICE: I WANT TO SEE SPIDER-MAN CAUGHT BECAUSE *(A)* IT HELPS A MAN WHO'S BEEN LIKE A FATHER TO ME GET ELECTED; *(B)* I'M A COP AND I'D LIKE TO SEE WHAT'S BEHIND THESE MURDERS; OR *(C)* ALL OF THE ABOVE.

OFF THE TOP OF MY HEAD, I GUESS "C" WOULD EXPLAIN WHAT YOU'RE DOING IN MY LAB...

IS IT DONE YET?

YOU'RE IMPATIENT. YOU KNOW THIS, RIGHT?

IT'S BEEN *THREE* MONTHS SINCE I CAME TO YOU WITH THE IDEA.

IT TOOK YOU ABOUT *FIVE MINUTES* TO FIGURE OUT THAT IF SPIDER-MAN CAN TRACE THE TRACERS, SO CAN *WE*.

BUT IT TAKES *CONSIDERABLY LONGER* THAN THAT TO ACTUALLY, Y'KNOW, FIGURE OUT A WAY TO *DO IT*.

THAT SOUNDS LIKE A "NO."

I'VE GOT A *PROTOTYPE*, BUT IT'S ACCURATE WITHIN ONLY SIXTEEN INCHES.

BUT THAT'S GREAT!
I WANTED TO GET IT DOWN TO UNDER A FOOT BEFORE DECLARING VICTORY.
AND HOW MANY PEOPLE HAS SPIDER-MAN ALLEGEDLY "*KILLED*" IN THAT TIME?
RELAX. I ONLY GOT IT WORKING *AT ALL* THIS MORNING. YOU'RE WOUND VERY TIGHT.
HOW DOES IT WORK?
WELL, THE TRACERS HAVE TO BE TURNED ON BEFORE THEY EMIT A SIGNAL, BUT WE FOUND A WAY TO HOME IN ON THE MATERIAL USED TO POWER THESE BABIES EVEN WHEN THEY'RE TURNED OFF.
IT'S SET ON A UNIQUE FREQUENCY, SO ALL YOU NEED IS SOMETHING THAT'LL VECTOR IN ON THAT FREQUENCY TO TRACE THE SIGNAL'S ORIGIN.
?
JUST FOLLOW THE BLINKING DOT.
THAT LOCATION... HOW ACCURATE IS THAT?
JUST LIKE I TOLD YOU, WITHIN SIXTEEN INCHES.
WHY?
"NOTHING."

NGF--

CRAAK

YOU'RE NOTHING. YOU'RE A JOKE IN A GARISH COSTUME.

PAL, HAVE YOU LOOKED IN A MIRROR LATELY?

YOUR JOKES AND QUIPS...THEY'RE JUST A SMOKESCREEN...

A DEFENSE YOU PUT UP TO KEEP YOU FROM THE TRUTH.

SHUNK

GGGG--

ARE YOU ABOUT TO TELL ME I CAN'T HANDLE THE TRUTH?

'CAUSE I CAN DO MY TOM CRUISE IMPRESSION...

YOU CAN'T HANDLE IT, PETE.

YOU NEVER COULD.

EVEN WHEN IT WAS RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOUR FACE...

C'MON, BE *HONEST*. YOU'RE NOT REALLY GONNA SAY YOU'RE SURPRISED...

...ARE YOU, PETER?

HARRY, NO--

NOOOO!

NO.

HARRY...

NNN...STUPID SUBCONSCIOUS... ALWAYS SENDING ME MESSAGES...

...I GOTTA GET HOME...

SO THIS IS *GOOD* FOR YOUR HEART, JONAH?

THWAP THWAP

THWAP

FIRST ELECTION IN THIS CITY SINCE LINDSAY THAT I'M NOT COVERING. THE ONLY THING KEEPING ME FROM GOING ON A HOMICIDAL RAMPAGE IS *THIS*.

Fit Gym.

36 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.

LIFE IMPRISONMENT CAN'T BE THAT MUCH *BETTER* FOR MY HEART.

DID HELL FREEZE OVER? BECAUSE THAT ACTUALLY MADE A KIND OF *SENSE* TO ME.

THWAP

NOTHING MAKES SENSE ANYMORE THESE DAYS, ROBBIE.

NOT MARLA TAKING AWAY THE THING THAT GAVE MY LIFE MEANING.

THWAP THWAP THWAP

NOT THE BUGLE GETTING TURNED INTO A RAG THAT MAKES TABLOIDS PULITZER-WORTHY.

NOTHING'S THE SAME ANYMORE.

WELL, *SOME* THINGS HAVEN'T CHANGED.

THWAP

YEAH? LIKE WHAT?

Offices Of The DB!

WHERE ARE THE LATEST NUMBERS?

COMING IN RIGHT NOW, MR. BENNETT.

I'M WALLER, SIR.

SOMEBODY GET ME WALKER IN LAYOUT.

I KNOW THAT, DAMMIT. I SAID GET ME *WALKER.*

I'M HERE, SIR. I'VE GOT MOCKUPS ON THE TWO HEADLINES YOU ASKED FOR.

I THOUGHT I ASKED FOR "*CROWNE CROWNED.*"

THE DB

HOLLISTER WINS!

DB

CROWNE WINS!

"'CROWNE WINS.' THAT'S GOING TO BE TOMORROW'S HEADLINE."

Campaign Headquarters, Randall Crowne For Mayor.

IT'S GOING TO BE THE RESULT OF THIS ELECTION, BY GOD, OR MY NAME ISN'T--

MR. CROWNE! MR. CROWNE, WE'VE GOT THE LATEST POLL NUMBERS.

"ARE THESE CORRECT?"

Campaign Headquarters, Hollister For New York.

IT'S JUST POLLING DATA, BILL.

MAYBE NOT.

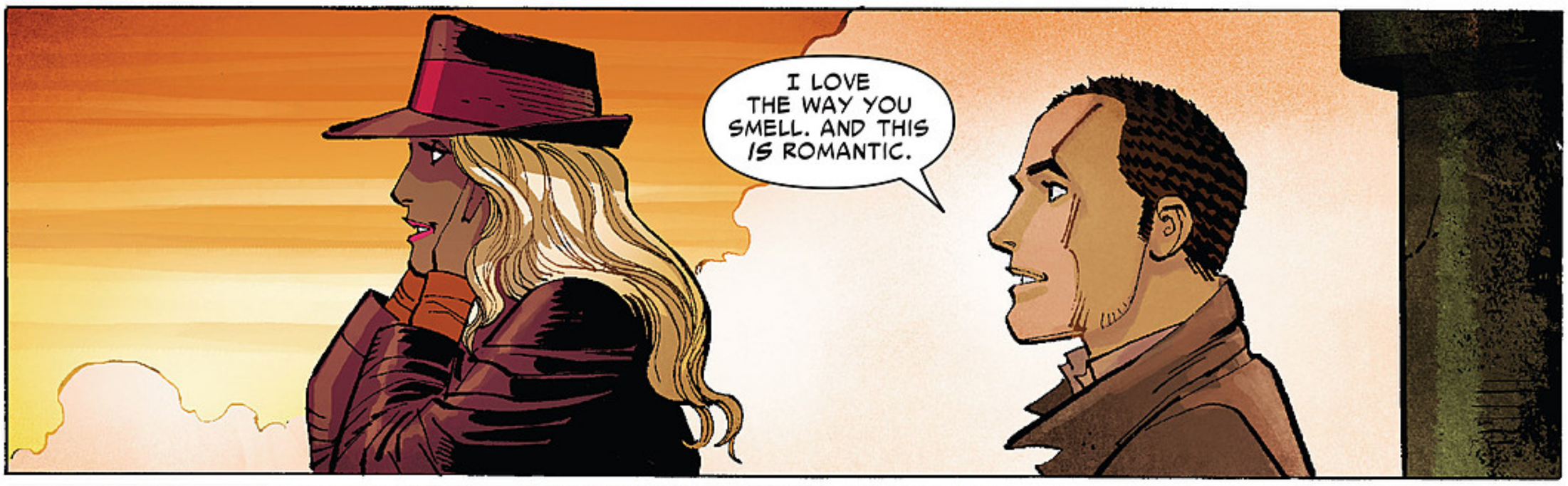
PROBABLY.

SO MAYBE NOT CORRECT.

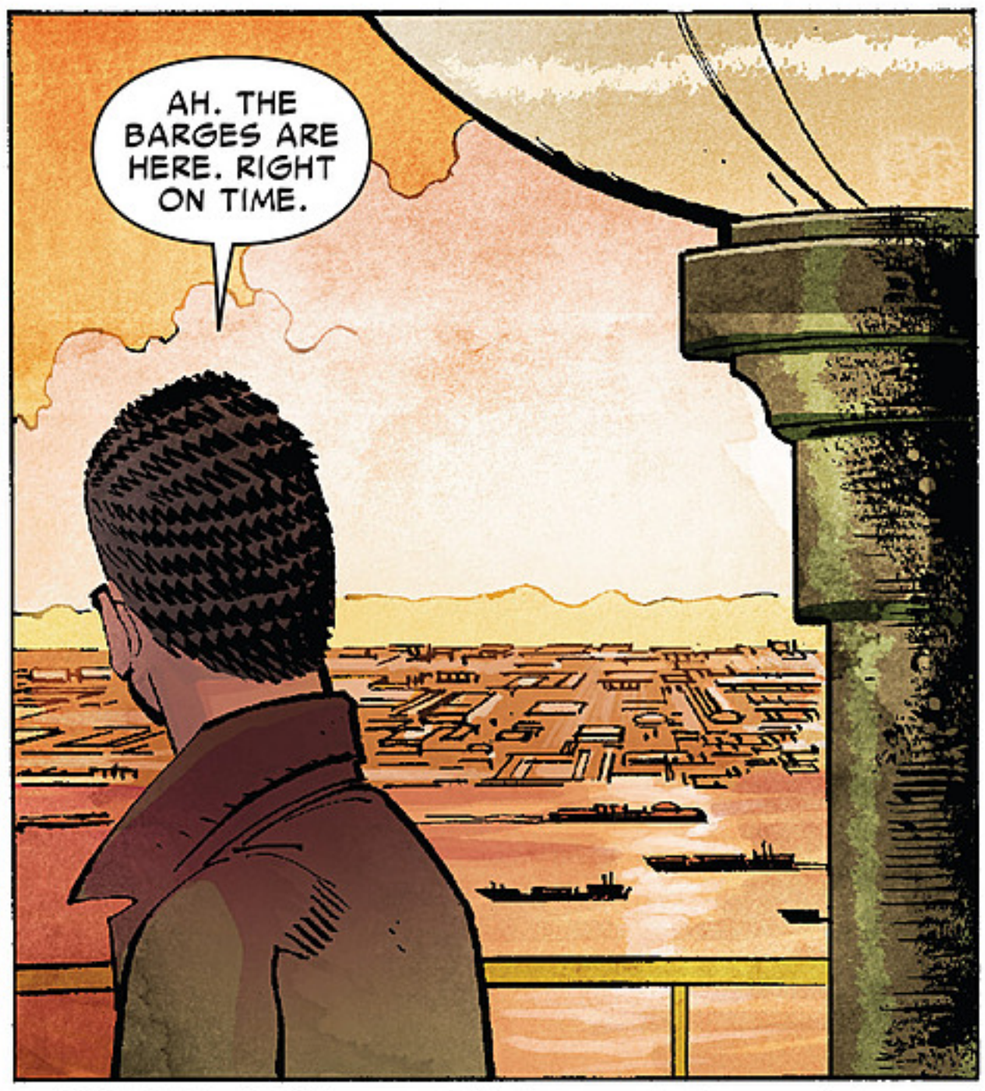
BUT PROBABLY.

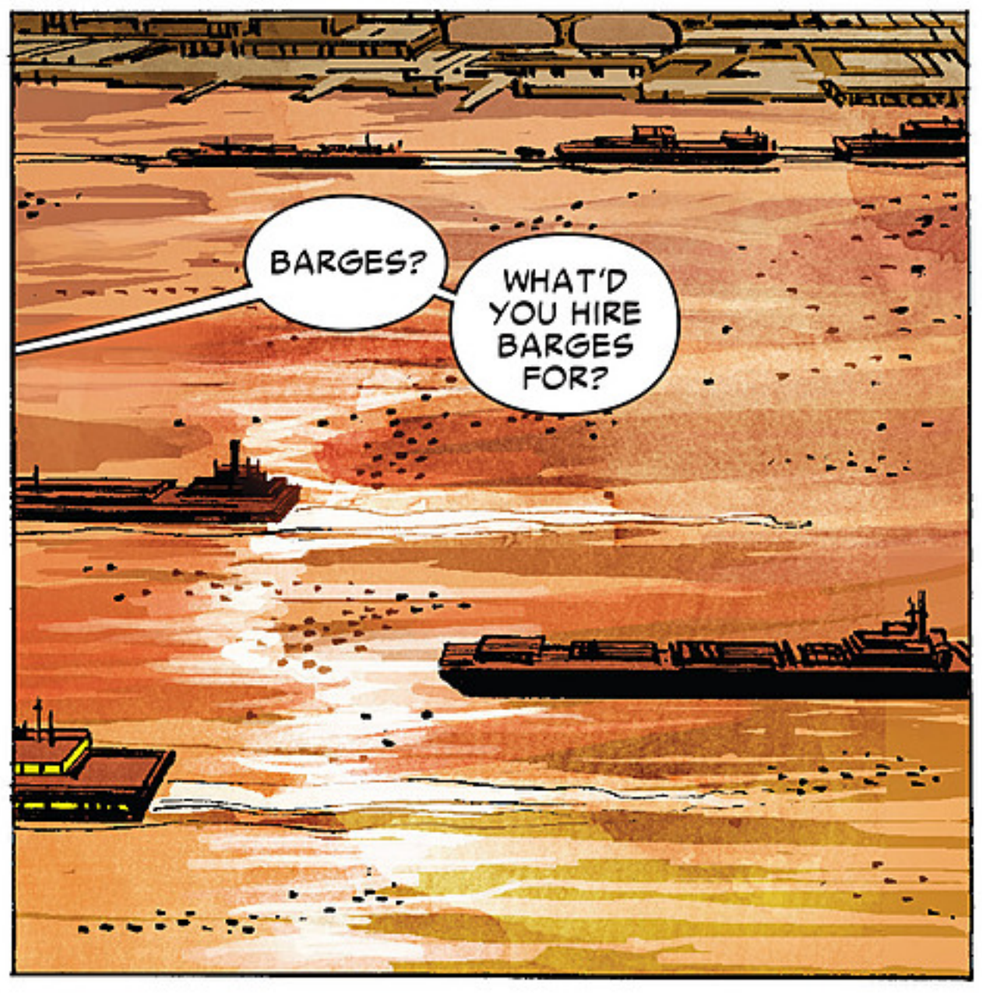
WHERE THE HELL'S MY *DAUGHTER?*

WEIRD. I EXPECTED MORE PEOPLE. WHERE IS EVERYBODY?
I RENTED THE PLACE OUT FOR THE DAY, LILY.
THE WHOLE--?
THE WHOLE *ISLAND*, ACTUALLY. BETWEEN YOU AND ME, WE'RE A PAPARAZZI TWO-FOR-ONE. I WANTED A LITTLE *PRIVACY*.
I SHOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE, HARRY. THE LATEST POLLING NUMBERS ARE SUPPOSED TO COME IN...
YOU WORK TOO HARD.
SAYS THE GUY WHO NEVER WORKED A REAL DAY IN HIS *LIFE*.
WHAT DO YOU CALL BUSTING MY HUMP TO MAKE THE COFFEE BEAN SUCCESSFUL?
A *HOBBY*.
FINE. BUT YOU AND I BOTH KNOW, YOU'RE LESS THAN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AWAY FROM BECOMING THE FIRST DAUGHTER OF NEW YORK CITY.
IS IT TOO MUCH TO ASK FOR YOU TO SPEND JUST A FEW OF THOSE HOURS WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND?
WELL...
...I AM GETTING RECEPTION UP HERE...
THAT'S THE SPIRIT.
THANK GOD. WE'RE HERE.
THINK OF THIS AS YOUR WORKOUT FOR THE DAY.
FOR THE *MONTH*. AND I'M SWEATING TWICE AS MUCH AS AFTER A WORKOUT. VERY ROMANTIC.


I LOVE THE WAY YOU SMELL. AND THIS IS ROMANTIC.

YES, IT'S LOVELY.


AH. THE BARGES ARE HERE. RIGHT ON TIME.


BARGES?
WHAT'D YOU HIRE BARGES FOR?

Alphabet City, New York.
CASA DE PETER PARKER AND OFFICER VIN GONZALES.
--JUST SAYING, I DIDN'T SIGN ON FOR *THAT*.
DAMN STRAIGHT WE'RE GONNA *TALK* ABOUT IT.
YEAH, I'M HEADED TO THE HOUSE NOW...
THANKS, I REALLY DIDN'T KNOW WHEN THE EIGHT-TO-EIGHT SHIFT *STARTED*.
I SAID WE WERE GONNA TALK, DIDN'T I?
I'LL SEE YOU IN TWENTY MINUTES.

THOUGHT VIN'D NEVER LEAVE.

THANK YOU SPIDEY-SENSE FOR THE WARNING.

OKAY, I NEED, LIKE, THE LONGEST SHOWER IN HUMAN HISTORY, FIFTEEN TYLENOLS AND A TRIP TO THE NIGHT NURSE TO PATCH ME UP.

IN EXACTLY *THAT* ORDER...SINCE THE TYLENOL AND SHOWER'S CLOSEST...

SHOWER'S GONNA GET BLOOD EVERYWHERE. GLAD VIN IS PULLING THE NIGHT TOUR TONIGHT. GIVE ME TIME TO CLEAN IT ALL UP...

"...BEFORE HE GETS HOME."

THIS HAS TO BE A MISTAKE. MAYBE JULIAN'S PUNKING ME, SENDING ME TO PETE AND VIN'S APARTMENT.

AND I *KNOW* I'M JUST ADDING TO THE MISTAKE BY USING THEIR SPARE KEY LIKE THIS.

THE SHOWER?

I WATCHED VIN LEAVE, SO IT MUST BE...

THWIP

PETER--?

UM...YEAH. HI, CARLIE. I'M, UH, IN THE SHOWER.

DON'T COME IN!!!

NAKED! NAKED! NAKED!

THOUGHT I HAD THE PLACE TO MYSELF. WOULD YOU MIND--?

HEY, WHY N--

YEAH, I DON'T THINK "LITTLE PETER" IS ANYTHING I WANT TO SEE.

SHUT

BECAUSE I COULD USE A BIT OF *PRIVACY* MYSELF.

THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT...

ACCORDING TO JULIAN'S GADGET, THE SIGNAL'S COMING FROM...

...VIN'S ROOM?

GO HOME, CARLIE. SERIOUSLY, GIRL, THIS IS A LINE YOU DON'T WANT TO CROSS...

OH GOD, VIN...

...WHO ARE YOU?

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #585

WE'RE BACK, FOLKS.

THIS IS TWO IN ONE, THE SHOW THAT TAKES A HARD-HITTING LOOK AT THE ISSUES THAT HIT HARDEST.

TWO IN ONE

I'M SAMARA SAFFIAN.

AND I'M MICHAEL LEVIN.

IT'S LESS THAN 35 HOURS 'TIL ELECTION DAY AND ALL OF NEW YORK IS WAITING TO SEE IF ITS NEXT MAYOR WILL BE NAMED CROWNE OR HOLLISTER...

WE'LL BE WITH YOU ALL THE WAY, PROVIDING COMMENTARY AND DEBATE AS NEW YORK CITY CHOOSES ITS NEXT MAYOR.

STAY WITH US BECAUSE WE'VE GOT SOME GOOD STUFF COMING UP FOR YOU, INCLUDING A COMMENTARY BY THE ALWAYS ERUDITE J. JONAH JAMESON, FORMER PUBLISHER OF THE DAILY BUGLE.

"I DON'T UNDERSTAND, LILY..."

I THOUGHT YOU LOVED ME...

I DO, HARRY. AND THIS IS VERY SWEET AND INCREDIBLE AND...

NOT "AND."

BUT.

BUT WE'VE ONLY BEEN GOING OUT FOR A FEW MONTHS AND...

AND WITH YOUR...HISTORY...I JUST WANT...I WANT US TO BE SURE, YOU KNOW?

SURE.

OF COURSE.

YOU WANT TO BE SURE.

I GET IT.

HARRY...

DON'T TOUCH ME!!!

HARRY... I LOVE YOU. I JUST...

I UNDERSTAND.

DON'T WORRY.

SORRY I LOST MY TEMPER.

BEEP

BEEP

BEEP

THAT WOULD BE YOUR *FATHER* CALLING.

HEY, DAD.
YEAH.
OKAY.
YEAH, I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.
LATEST POLL NUMBERS. CROWNE'S PULLED WITHIN THE MARGIN. IT'S A DEAD HEAT.
SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE GOT TO GO.
CHIK
HARRY--
GO.

Alphabet City.

THE APARTMENT OF PETER PARKER AND VIN GONZALES.

CARLIE?

PETER, THANK GOD.

I CAN EXPLAIN--

EXPLAIN WHAT?

VIN! I THOUGHT YOU WERE WORKING THE NIGHT SHIFT...

YEAH. O'NEIL'S DOWNSTAIRS WAITING FOR ME. I JUST FORGOT MY LOCKER KEY.

NO. WHY?

IS PETER HERE?

HE JUST-- I THOUGHT HE WAS IN THE BATHROOM.

CARLIE, WHAT'S GOING ON?

FUNNY, I WAS JUST ABOUT TO ASK YOU THE SAME QUESTION.

WHAT THE HELL'S THAT SUPPOSED TO--

VIN--

PARTNER, WE'VE GOT TO ROLL. PARK AND EAST 14TH AND PRONTO...

...MENACE JUST HIT ONE OF HOLLISTER'S CAMPAIGN RALLIES.

NO, PETE...

DON'T EVEN *THINK* IT. YOU'VE BEEN *SHOT*, FOR GODSAKES. YOU NEED TRAINED MEDICAL ATTENTION.

YOU *CAN'T* GO FIGHT A SUPER-VILLAIN. LET LUKE CAGE OR DAREDEVIL--HECK, EVEN *DARKHAWK*-- DEAL WITH IT...

KLIK

WHO AM I KIDDING?

IF MENACE SO MUCH AS SPRAINED SOMEONE'S *ANKLE*, I'D NEVER RECOVER FROM THE *GUILT*...

"WHERE ARE YOU GOING?"

I'M A POLICEMAN, REMEMBER? THIS IS KIND OF WHAT I DO.

I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.

NO PROB. WE'LL CHAT LATER.

I THINK WE SHOULD "CHAT" NOW.

IT'S LIKE I DON'T EVEN *KNOW* YOU--

VIN... PARTNER--

CARLIE--

GET AWAY FROM ME!

ALRIGHT. JUST, Y'KNOW, CALM DOWN.

I'M SERIOUS--

I CAN EXPLAIN...

FINE. EXPLAIN WHAT YOU'RE DOING WITH *THESE.*

Y'KNOW, I DON'T THINK YOU *REALLY* BELIEVE I'M THE TRACER KILLER. IF YOU DID, YOU WOULDN'T BE TAKING THAT *TONE* WITH ME...

"DON'T DO IT."

DON'T PASS OUT. DON'T PASS OUT...

MAYBE I SHOULD...MAYBE I SHOULD'VE JUST TAKEN THE...

THE SUBWAY...

ALRIGHT, SO HERE WE GO NOW.

HOLLISTER FOR NEW YORK

"SPIDER-MAN IS CRAZY!"

HE'S INSANE! HE'S CERTIFIABLE!

TWO IN ONE

I'M DEDICATED TO GIVING NEW YORKERS THE TRUTH AND HE'S BEEN TERRORIZING THIS CITY FOR YEARS. BUT HE'S TAKEN A SWAN DIVE OFF THE DEEP END LATELY WITH THESE TRACER KILLINGS--

YOU'RE REFERRING TO THE SPATE OF MURDERS WHERE THE VICTIMS WERE ALL FOUND WITH ONE OF SPIDER-MAN'S SO-CALLED "SPIDER-TRACERS" ON THEM...

THEY'RE HIS CALLING CARD, YOU NETWORK NINNY! HE MIGHT AS WELL BE SIGNING HIS NAME!

IN ALL FAIRNESS, MR. JAMESON, JUST BECAUSE I CAN GO DOWN TO TRIBECA AND BUY A WATCH THAT SAYS "ROLEX" ON IT DOESN'T MEAN I OWN A FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLAR WATCH.

WHAT THE HELL'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH THE PRICE OF FALAFEL IN TURKEY?

WELL, I IMAGINE THESE SPIDER-TRACERS COULD BE DUPLICATED, COUNTERFEITED--

THAT'S JUST A BUNCH OF LIBERAL, MEDIA-BIASED CLAPTRAP. YOU SHOULD WRITE FOR THE HUFFINGTON POST.

"YOU'RE A CROWNE SUPPORTER? REALLY?"

I ALWAYS FIGURED YOU FOR A HOLLISTER GUY, MENNY.

THEN AGAIN, THIS IS A HOLLISTER RALLY AND YOU COULD JUST BE SHOWING YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE MAN.

NO, I JUST KNEW SHOWING UP HERE WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO *LURE* YOU OUT INTO THE OPEN.

IS THAT RIGHT? THAT'S SWEET. YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT ME.

NO, I'M JUST HAVING A BAD DAY AND NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE IT OUT ON.

HAVE YOU TRIED MEDITATION INSTEAD? A LITTLE RETAIL THERAPY?

OOF

GUESS NOT.

GAAAH!

WHAT WAS THAT NOW? I COULDN'T HEAR YOU OVER THE SCREAMING.

WHAM

I SAID, "GAAH." THIS *SLING'S* NOT A FASHION STATEMENT YOU KNOW.

SO MAYBE YOU COULD TAKE IT A LITTLE--

CHANG

CHANG

--EEEEEUUSSSY!

CHANG

SORRY, I DON'T THINK SO.

BANG

CHING

CHANG

BANG

FOOMP!

SOMETIMES, I REALLY...

...REALLY...

...REALLY...

...REALLY *HATE* MY LIFE...

PING

CHINK

DING

SCAFFOLD'S BREAKING APART.

THIS IS NOT HAPPENING TO ME.

MOVE MOVEMOVEMOVE *MOVE!*

THWIPT

PLEASE LET THIS WORK.

IF FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN IF IT DOESN'T, CROWNE'S GONNA BE THE NEXT MAYOR BECAUSE HALF OF HOLLISTER'S SUPPORTERS ARE GONNA GET KILLED.

ALMOST... ALMOST...

THWAT

GNNGH... RRRG...GUNH...

HOLLISTER FOR NEW YORK

COME ON! HNK EVERYBODY RUN!

WOW! EVERYONE'S CLEAR THAT WAS--

THAT WAS IMPRESSIVE EVEN FOR--

EVEN FOR--

AW, MAN. DON'T... DON'T PASS OUT...DON--

SHLKOOMMBUMM

"LOOK, IT'S NOT AS BAD AS YOU THINK."

THAT'S COMFORTING, 'CAUSE RIGHT NOW I THINK MY FRIEND'S A *SERIAL KILLER.*

AL--

DON'T LOOK AT ME.

I'M KINDA CURIOUS HOW YOU'RE GONNA GET YOURSELF OUT OF THIS ONE, PARTNER.

THANKS, THAT'S FUNNY.

YOU SHOULDN'T'VE BEEN KEEPING THE DAMN THINGS UNDER YOUR BED.

WHERE ELSE SHOULD I'VE BEEN KEEPING THEM?

I'M JUST SAYING, WE GAVE 'EM TO YOU TO TAKE CARE OF. *THIS* ISN'T EXACTLY TAKING CARE OF 'EM.

WAIT. WHAT DO YOU MEAN "*WE GAVE THEM*"?

Y'SEE, COOPER, VIN'S NOT THE ONLY ONE INVOLVED IN THIS.

SURPRISE.

UH... UH-KAY...

SO THIS IS TURNING OUT TO BE NOT ONE OF MY BETTER WEEK...

WEEKS...?

WELL, *LIFETIMES* IF I'M BEING ACURATE--

THE POLICE WANT YOU DEAD OR ALIVE...

SHOOONK

I JUST MADE UP MY MIND WHICH ONE IT'LL BE.

THE POLICE...?

THAT'S RIGHT, I'M ABOUT TO SAVE THIS CITY A LOT OF MONEY!

OKAY... OKAY...I CAN DO THIS...THIS ISN'T THE WORST I'VE BEEN THROUGH...

MOVE...

USE THE WEBS. GIVE HIM A FACE-FULL OF--

AAAGGH!

CHAK

SHUNK

SHUNK

CHAK

GGHGL--

NO...

YES.

THSS...

STAY STILL. THIS WILL BE QUICK.

FEH.

AH, THERE WE GO.

EXCUSE ME, OFFICER...

...I'D LIKE TO MAKE A CITIZEN'S ARREST.

HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!

GGGG... NNN...

NO, I'M NOT...I'M NOT...

"NOT" WHAT? YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET COLLARED HERE?

THINK AGAIN.

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST. YOU'VE GOT THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT. YOU'VE GOT THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY...

Campaign Headquarters, Hollister For New York.

33 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.

GGRGR...

URCH--
GGL--

Five Minutes Later.

SHE'LL BE SURE. SHE *IS* SURE. SHE JUST DOESN'T *REALIZE* IT...

...I CAN MAKE HER REALIZE IT...

...SHE JUST NEEDS A *REMINDER.*

SHE JUST--

OH MY GOD.

...LILY?!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #586

Prologue.

THE HOLLISTER HOUSEHOLD. YEARS AGO.

I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND...

NOT DURING DINNER, PLEASE.

IT'S A *SIMPLE* QUESTION.

BILL, DO WE HAVE TO DO THIS IN FRONT OF CARLIE...

REALLY, LUCY, IT'S OKAY.

I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW LILY COULD FAIL TO GET INTO A *SINGLE* HONORS CLASS...

WELL, SHE TRIED. SHE STUDIED SO HARD...

NOT HARD ENOUGH, APPARENTLY. IT'S "*RES IPSA LOQUITUR*-- THE THING SPEAKS FOR ITSELF."

LILY, YOU WANT ME TO DO YOUR NAILS AFTER DINNER?

NO THANKS. I'M KINDA TIRED. JUST GONNA GO TO BED.

I JUST DON'T WANT LILY HAVING TO DEPEND ON *MARRYING RIGHT* TO AMOUNT TO SOMETHING...

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL

Ten Years Later.

33 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.

I'M GOING TO *DO IT.*

I'M GOING TO DO WHAT THE GOBLIN COULD NEVER DO.

WHAT KRAVEN AND DOCTOR OCTOPUS AND ALL THOSE OTHER MORONS COULD NEVER SEEM TO *MANAGE.*

I'M GOING TO *BEAT* SPIDER-MAN.

MARC GUGGENHEIM WRITER | *BARRY KITSON* PENCILS | *KARL KESEL* INKS

ANDRES MOSSA COLORS | *VC'S CORY PETIT* LETTERS | *TOM BRENNAN* ASST. EDITOR

STEPHEN WACKER PRINCESS | *TOM BREVOORT* EXECUTIVE EDITOR | *JOE QUESADA* EDITOR IN CHIEF | *DAN BUCKLEY* PUBLISHER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM & SLOTT SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

I'M NOT GOING TO KILL HIM. I'M *NOT.*

NO...

YES.

THSS...

STAY STILL. THIS WILL BE QUICK.

HE'S NO GOOD TO ME DEAD.

HE'S GOT TO BE ALIVE. HE'S GOT TO BE *ARRESTED.* HE'S GOT TO BE PARADED AROUND LIKE A *TROPHY.*

AND *THAT'S* THE WAY MY FATHER WILL BECOME MAYOR OF NEW YORK CITY.

FEH.

AND IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT HE DOESN'T KNOW IT'S *ME* WHO MADE IT HAPPEN.

I'LL KNOW.

HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!

THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS.

HE DOESN'T *HAVE TO* KNOW.

HE *DOESN'T.*

HE WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

HE *NEVER* DOES.

HE... NEVER...

GGRGR...

...DOES.

URCH-- GGL--

HGH. HRM.

MATT? IT'S LILY. LISTEN, I NEED YOU TO PUT ANOTHER POLL IN THE FIELD.

I KNOW, BUT SOMETHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN. SOMETHING *HUGE*.

I CAN'T TELL YOU, BUT IT'S A GAME-CHANGER.

JUST GET THE POLL READY.

OH, DON'T WORRY. YOU'LL KNOW WHEN TO GO OUT WITH IT...

OH MY GOD.

TEK

...LILY?!

Campaign Headquarters, "Hollister For New York."

33 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.

WELL? AREN'T YOU GOING TO SAY SOMETHING?

NO, HE WON'T. HIS MIND'S TOO BUSY WORKING ON SOMETHING TO *EXPLAIN* WHAT HE SEES.

MAYBE IT'S A PRANK.

MAYBE HALLOWEEN CAME EARLY.

MAYBE HE'S LOSING HIS MIND.

I WONDER IF THAT'S A COMFORTING THOUGHT FOR HIM.

HARRY, IF YOU'RE GOING TO SAY SOMETHING--

I THINK I'M GOING TO BE SICK.

KNOCK YOURSELF OUT.

LILY--

YOU MIND IF I CHANGE? THE COSTUME GETS UNCOMFORTABLE.

I--

LOOK, THIS DOESN'T HAVE TO BE DIFFICULT.

???

I KNOW WHAT'S GOING THROUGH YOUR HEAD RIGHT NOW. I KNOW YOU PRETTY WELL, HARRY, AND I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.

YOU'RE AFRAID I ONLY DATED YOU BECAUSE YOU WERE THE GREEN GOBLIN.

YOU'RE AFRAID I DON'T LOVE YOU.

AND YOU'RE AFRAID I NEVER DID.

AM I RIGHT?

I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I? YOU'RE JUST *DYING* INSIDE RIGHT NOW, AREN'T YOU?

GET...

HMM?

GET OFF OF ME...

HARRY--

GET OFF!

THWAK

THAT *REALLY* HURT MY FEELINGS, HARRY.

CRAK

MS. HOLLISTER?

MS. HOLLISTER?

EVERYTHING'S FINE, ERIC. I JUST READ AN ANNOYING OP-ED PIECE AND THREW SOMETHING HEAVY.

YOU'RE SICK...

WERE *YOU* SICK? WAS YOUR *FATHER?*

YEAH, I KNOW ALL ABOUT THE FAMILY HISTORY. NO, I DON'T BUY THAT YOUR DAD WAS FORCED INTO WEARING A GOBLIN COSTUME AT LEAST TWENTY TIMES.

(SO I'M EXAGGERATING A LITTLE.)

BUT EVEN IF I DID BELIEVE THE PUBLIC VERSION, I KNOW THE *TRUTH*.

MAYOR

RECOGNIZE THIS JOURNAL? YOU SHOULD.

"I FOUND IT IN YOUR CLOSET.

"WELL, NOT YOUR *CLOSET*, EXACTLY."

I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU, HARRY. I WAS SO WORRIED.

I REALLY WISH YOU WOULD SAY SOMETHING.

YOU WERE WORRIED. ABOUT ME.

YES.

"ALL THOSE LATE NIGHTS. ALL THAT *STRESS* YOU WERE UNDER...

"I KNOW *NOW* IT WAS ALL BECAUSE YOU WERE TRYING TO GET THE COFFEE BEAN BACK UP AND RUNNING.

"BUT BACK THEN, MONTHS AGO, WELL, IT LOOKED LIKE *SOMETHING ELSE.*

"IT LOOKED LIKE YOU'D FALLEN OFF THE WAGON. IT LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE DOING DRUGS AGAIN."

I WAS *CONCERNED* AND I WENT LOOKING TO SEE IF--

IT WAS *ALMOST* AN ACCIDENT.

THIS ISN'T HAPPENING. I'M NOT HEARING THIS...

"I SAW SOME SCUFFMARKS ON THE FLOORBOARDS THAT LOOKED STRANGE.

"CURIOSITY'S MY ONE VICE, I GUESS."

I'M NOT GONNA SAY IT'S A PAGE-TURNER, EXACTLY. THE TRUTH IS, IT'S PRETTY DRY. LIKE A CROSS BETWEEN A LAB NOTEBOOK AND A DIARY.

LILY--

I MEAN, THERE'S A LOT OF *WHINING*--

LOOK, WE'VE BEEN DATING A WHILE AND I'VE COME TO *EXPECT* IT, BUT--EVEN BY THOSE STANDARDS--

THERE'S A LOT OF WHINING IN HERE.

YOU'RE SICK, LILY. NOBODY KNOWS THAT BETTER THAN ME.

YOU'RE SICK AND YOU NEED HELP.

LOOK, MY FATHER DIDN'T CARE FOR ME MUCH EITHER, ALRIGHT?

HE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED A *BOY* AND HE DIDN'T EXACTLY KEEP THAT A SECRET, Y'KNOW?

BUT YOU DON'T SEE ME CONSTANTLY KVETCHING ABOUT IT, DO YOU?

DON'T BRING MY FATHER INTO THIS--

MAYOR

UM... I THINK HE'S IN IT ALREADY, HARRY.

YOU DIDN'T...BECOME THIS BECAUSE OF MY FATHER. AND YOU DIDN'T BECOME IT BECAUSE OF *YOURS*.

YES, I KNOW.

SEE, HARRY, UNLIKE SOME OTHER PEOPLE, I KNOW HOW TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY LIFE.

AM I PERFECT? NO. NOT EVEN CLOSE. I'M SO *NOT* PERFECT.

BUT AT THE VERY LEAST I'M MATURE ENOUGH TO RECOGNIZE MY DECISIONS ARE MY OWN.

MY FATHER LOVES--AND THAT'S WITH A CAPITAL "L"--*LOVES* CARLIE MORE THAN ME. THAT'S SOMETHING HE HASN'T MADE MUCH OF AN EFFORT TO KEEP SECRET, EITHER.

BUT I DON'T BLAME HIM FOR EVERY LITTLE THING.

OH, THAT REMINDS ME: YOU SAID I DIDN'T BECOME THIS...

...BECAUSE OF YOUR FATHER.

THAT'S NOT EXACTLY TRUE.

HOLY GOD...

GULUGHUGHUCCH...

MY FATHER... I'M GOING TO *KILL* HIM... I'LL KILL HIM FOR BRINGING YOU INTO THIS...

CHILL. TRUTH IS, IT'S NOT ENTIRELY HIS FAULT. ACTUALLY, I'M NOT EVEN SURE HE *KNOWS* ABOUT IT.

KNOWS ABOUT *WHAT?*

"HIS LITTLE SECRET ROOM, SWEETHEART.

HIS ANTIQUE EDITION OF *"THE RISE OF THE NORMAN EMPIRE"?*

"COME ON, HARRY. YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT."

The Rise of the Norman Empire: England before the Crusades

TALE

ANTS

THE FUTURE

"OH. THAT REMINDS ME.

"SLIGHTLY RELATED POINT...

"I KINDA KISSED PETER."

YEAH. WHEN WE WERE CLEANING UP AFTER THAT THING WITH SPIDER-MAN AND THE THUNDERBOLTS...

"PETER ALMOST TOOK THE BOOK OFF OF THE SHELF...

A.K.A. NEW WAYS TO DIE -PART 6
A.K.A. AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #573
--S. WACKER A/K/A R. MACCHIO.

"WHICH, AS WE BOTH KNOW, WOULD HAVE TRIGGERED THE--

"WHAT'S THE TECHNICAL TERM?

"--SECRET ENTRANCE TO YOUR DAD'S EQUALLY SECRET ROOM."

"BRIEF DIGRESSION, YOU OSBORNS COULD *DOUBLE* YOUR REAL ESTATE HOLDINGS IN THIS TOWN IF YOU JUST WENT PUBLIC WITH ALL YOUR HIDEOUTS, SECRET ROOMS AND HIDDEN CACHES.

"I'M JUST SAYING.

"AT ANY RATE, I FIGURED PETER FINDING OUT YOUR DAD'S SECRET LIKE I DID WOULDN'T EXACTLY BE THE BEST THING FOR DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY SO I...

Rise of the Norman Empire:

"...DISTRACTED HIM."

NO NEED TO THANK ME.

HOW DID YOU--HOW DID YOU DO IT?

WITH MY LIPS. A LITTLE TONGUE, MAYBE...

FIND OUT. HOW'D YOU FIND OUT HOW TO OPEN THE ROOM?

SIMPLE. YOU WROTE ABOUT IT. *WHINED* ABOUT IT, ACTUALLY.

HOW HE SPENT MORE TIME IN THERE THAN WITH YOU--*BOO-HOO-HOO.*

IS THAT A VIOLIN I HEAR?

THAT DAY--

YUP.

THE DAY I HAD TO SIGN THOSE TRUST FUND DOCUMENTS--

AND SO LIGHT DAWNS ON MARBLE-HEAD...

YOU *INSISTED* ON COMING. DOWN TO OSCORP.

"I TOLD YOU, HARRY. CURIOSITY IS MY ONE VICE...

"OKAY, WELL, MAYBE AT *THAT* POINT-- *MAYBE*--IT WAS A LITTLE MORE THAN CURIOSITY.

"MAYBE I WAS THINKING I COULD FIND SOMETHING THAT WOULD GIVE MY DAD A *REASON* TO RUN FOR MAYOR.

"SOMETHING-- A *CAUSE*-- TO RUN *ON*.

"EVIDENCE THAT NORMAN OSBORN IS THE GREEN GOBLIN? THAT'D DO FINE.

"THAT'D DO NICELY, AND I FIGURED YOU'D *THANK* ME. NO LOVE LOST BETWEEN YOU AND DADDY OSBORN, RIGHT?

"AND THAT ROOM... THAT WAS THE MOTHER LODE, REALLY.

"MY DAD'S AN ATTORNEY, I'VE PICKED A FEW THINGS UP, AND I'M HERE TO TELL YOU THAT THERE'S ENOUGH IN THAT ROOM TO INDICT HIM IN AT LEAST HALF A DOZEN DIFFERENT ONGOING CRIMINAL CONSPIRACIES.

"I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENED WITH THE SKRULLS OR WHAT 'LEGITIMACY' HE'S SUPPOSEDLY GOT NOW...

"WORD GOT OUT ABOUT THAT ROOM AND HE'D BE *DONE*.

"JUST THE *EXPERIMENTS* ALONE THAT HE'S RUNNING IN THERE--

CHUNK

"--LIKE THE ONE I ACCIDENTALLY KNOCKED OVER--

"--I IMAGINE THOSE WOULD VIOLATE AT LEAST A FEDERAL REGULATION OR TWO."

BUT I'M EXTREMELY HURT THAT YOU THINK I'VE GONE CRAZY.

LILY, YOU DON'T KNOW--

PRETTY SURE I DO *NOW*, THANKS.

YOU HAVE TO LISTEN TO ME.

ACTUALLY, I *DON'T*.

HARRY, I HATE TO BE THE ONE TO TELL YOU THIS, BUT I THINK HONESTY'S IMPORTANT TO A RELATIONSHIP AND, WELL, I'M NOT *YOU*.

YOU MAY'VE-- ÷URCH÷ HAD A PROBLEM WITH DRUGS AND ÷GNF÷ WHATNOT.

END OF THE-- END OF THE DAY, YOU'RE BASICALLY A ÷RRRR÷ A WEAK PERSON.

BUT *I'M* NOT. I CAN ÷GAH÷ CONTROL THIS.

LITERALLY.

DON'T BE JEALOUS.

IT MADE YOU CRAZY--

EXCUSE ME?

THE SERUM...

IF YOU ABSORBED IT THROUGH YOUR SKIN--

"OH, I'M SURE THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED, HARRY.

"I ABSORBED THE GOBLIN SERUM THROUGH MY SKIN.

"AND LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING, LITTLE O...

"YOUR DAD MUST'VE BEEN EXPERIMENTING WITH A NEW RECIPE OR SOMETHING...

"BECAUSE I DIDN'T EXACTLY NEED A MASK.

"AND I REALIZED THAT I HADN'T JUST FOUND SOME REASON FOR MY FATHER TO THROW HIS HAT IN THE RING.

"I'D FOUND SOMETHING *BETTER.*

"I FOUND SOMETHING THAT WOULD NOT ONLY *MAKE* HIM THROW HIS HAT IN...

"...BUT SOMETHING THAT WOULD HELP HIM *WIN.*"

OKAY--

OKAY, YOU WON'T BE JEALOUS?

OKAY, OKAY... ***LISTEN*** TO ME. JUST LISTEN. LET ME SEE IF I--YOUR FATHER--

WHAT ABOUT HIM?

YOU'VE BEEN ATTACKING HIM. HITTING HIS CAMPAIGN RALLIES. AS ***MENACE***. DO YOU REMEMBER?

OF COURSE, I DO.

AND YOU DON'T THINK THAT'S CRAZY?

"NO. NO, THERE'S--THIS IS FUNNY--THERE'S A METHOD TO MY MADNESS.

PARFREY FOR MAYOR

"INITIALLY, I SET OUT TO JUST DRIVE CROWNE OR PARFREY OUT OF THE RACE, TO OPEN UP A SLOT FOR MY DAD.

"BUT AFTER PARFREY DIED--TOTALLY ***NOT*** MY FAULT, BY THE WAY--I SAW HOW VALUABLE ***SYMPATHY*** IS AS A POLITICAL TOOL.

"YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN HOW THE POLLS ***JUMPED*** AFTER EVERY 'ATTACK' I MADE ON MY DAD."

THE *"ATTACKS"* ⇢*ICH*⇠ THEY WERE ***PERFECT***, EXACTLY WHAT WE NEEDED TO ESTABLISH ⇢*GNF*⇠

⇢*MUH*⇠ MY DAD AS A LAW AND ORDER GUY, AN ⇢*NGH*⇠ ***ENEMY*** OF CRIMINALS.

AND IT ***WORKED.***

MY DAD IS LESS THAN TWO DAYS AWAY FROM GETTING ELECTED MAYOR.

I'M SURPRISED, BY THE WAY.

SURPRISED YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED.

YOU'RE SURPRISED.

NOTICED WHAT?

MAKE SURE YOU LOCK THE DOOR BEHIND YOU.

IT'D BE HARD TO EXPLAIN THE GLIDER AND STUFF.

LOVE YOU!

SHUMP

Epilogue.

The Oscorp Building.
ELECTION DAY.

before the Norman Empire: the Crusades

THIS, SILLY.

MY ANSWER IS *YES*, IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING.

LOOK, I'M NOT SAYING WE DON'T HAVE SOME THINGS TO WORK THROUGH HERE.

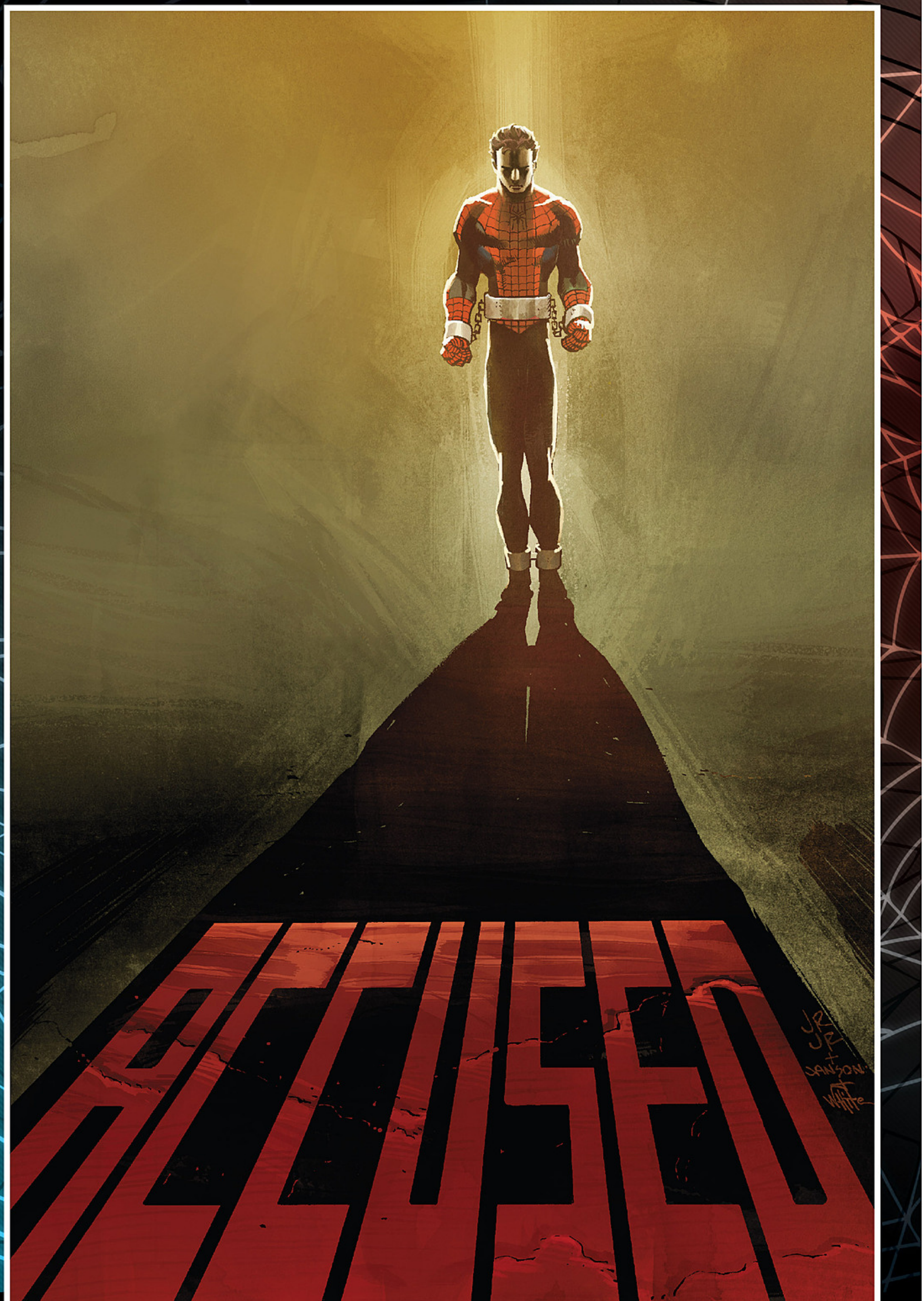
BUT WE CAN AND WE WILL ONCE THE ELECTION'S OVER. HOW'D YOU LIKE TO GET MARRIED AT GRACIE MANSION?

LOOK, I'VE GOT TO GO. THE PRESS IS GONNA BE REPORTING THAT SPIDER-MAN'S BEEN ARRESTED AND I REALLY DON'T WANT TO MISS THAT.

I LOVE YOU.

AND I CAN'T WAIT TO BE MRS. OSBORN.

OH, AND HARRY?



AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #587

TWO-IN-ONE IS BREAKING INTO REGULAR LOCAL PROGRAMMING TO BRING YOU THIS SPECIAL REPORT...

I'M SAMARA SAFFIAN.

AND I'M MICHAEL LEVIN.

LESS THAN 33 HOURS UNTIL MANHATTAN'S MAYORAL ELECTION AND A BOMBSHELL.

SPIDER-TRACER KILLER

ELECTION DAY UPDATE

NORMAN OSBORN: HOT OR NOT?

THE COSTUMED VIGILANTE KNOWN AS "SPIDER-MAN" WAS TAKEN INTO POLICE CUSTODY FOLLOWING A FIGHT WITH THE SUPER-VILLAIN KNOWN AS "MENACE" AT A PRO-HOLLISTER RALLY THAT LEFT SPIDER-MAN UNCONSCIOUS.

OBVIOUSLY, THIS WILL MEAN MAJOR THINGS FOR TOMORROW'S ELECTION. SAMARA?

THAT'S RIGHT, MICHAEL.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE WILLIAM HOLLISTER HAS BEEN SUFFERING IN THE POLLS LATELY AS SPIDER-MAN HAS ELUDED ARREST IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECENT SPATE OF SO-CALLED "SPIDER-TRACER KILLINGS."

THIS DEVELOPMENT CAN'T HELP BUT PAY HUGE DIVIDENDS TO HOLLISTER GOING INTO TOMORROW'S ELECTION.

LET'S GO NOW TO OUR SPECIAL GUEST COMMENTATOR TO GIVE US INSIGHT ON TODAY'S **REMARKABLE** EVENTS.

HE'S ON LOCATION OUTSIDE THE FIFTH PRECINCT IN MANHATTAN.

JONAH?

JONAH? CAN YOU HEAR ME?

TWO IN ONE

UM... JONAH?

WE SEEM TO HAVE LOST MR. JAMESON. WE'LL TRY TO GET HIM BACK.

IN THE MEANTIME, LET'S TAKE A LOOK BACK ON OTHER NOTEWORTHY SUPER HERO ARRESTS...

SERIOUSLY, GONZALES, HIDING THE TRACERS UNDER YOUR *BED?*

IN A *LOCKBOX*, AL. BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT.

HOW MANY?

WHAT?

HOW MANY COPS? HOW MUCH OF THE FORCE IS ON THE WHOLE FRAME-SPIDER-MAN-FOR-MURDER CONSPIRACY?

I'M A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR *TONE* HERE, CARLIE--

SORRY. I JUST FOUND OUT MY FRIEND'S PART OF A GANG OF COP SERIAL KILLERS. I'M A LITTLE *THROWN.*

NO ONE'S BEEN *KILLED*, ALL RIGHT? ALL WE DID WAS PLANT *TRACERS* ON PEOPLE WHO WERE *ALREADY DEAD.*

WE HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING ILLEGAL--

ARE YOU KIDDING ME, VIN? DID YOU JUST *SLEEP* THROUGH POLICE ETHICS AT THE ACADEMY?

WHAT ABOUT TAMPERING WITH EVIDENCE?

WHAT ABOUT OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE?

WHAT ABOUT *FRAUD?*

SPIDER-MAN'S A LAWBREAKER, CARLIE. HE'S A *VIGILANTE* WHOSE METHODS INTERFERE WITH OURS. SO WE DECEDED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

WE DECIDED WE NEEDED TO GET PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST HIM SO WE COULD GET HIM OFF THE STREETS AND DO *JOBS.*

Fifth Precinct.
32 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.
1881
SPIDER-MAN!
SPIDEY!
SPIDER-MAN!
OVER HERE!
DID YOU DO IT?!
GET A COMMENT?!
THINK YOU'LL GET OFF?!
SPIDER-MAN!
HOW MANY'D YOU KILL?!
WHY'D YOU DO IT?!
HAVE YOU SOLD THE MOVIE RIGHTS?!
5th PRECINCT

PART 3

MARC GUGGENHEIM WRITER | JOHN ROMITA JR. PENCILS | KLAUS JANSON INKS
DEAN WHITE COLORS | VC'S CORY PETIT LETTERS | TOM BRENNAN ASST. EDITOR | STEPHEN WACKER EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT EXECUTIVE EDITOR | JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF | DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER
GALE, GUGGENHEIM & SLOTT SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST

SPIDER-MAN!
SPIDER-MAN!
C'MON, OVER HERE!
WHO WAS YOUR NEXT VICTIM GONNA BE?!
WHY'D YOU DO IT?!
WHY?!
SPIDER-MAN --!
"YEAH, I DON'T BELIEVE IT, EITHER.

AL, SHE DOESN'T NEED TO--

I WANT IN.

EXCUSE ME?

AL'S GOT A POINT.

I BECAME A COP TO PUNISH PEOPLE WHO BREAK THE LAW. SPIDER-MAN'S BREAKING THE LAW.

BUT THERE'S NO PUNISHING HIM. HE'S BEEN RUNNING AROUND FOR ***YEARS***, BEATING ON CRIMINALS, VIOLATING THEIR CIVIL RIGHTS, MAKING ***US--REAL*** COPS-- THE CHUMPS.

BUT NOBODY WAS ALL THAT INTERESTED IN REALLY ***STOPPING*** HIM UNTIL THIS "*TRACER KILLER*" THING. ***THAT'S*** SOMETHING I CAN GET BEHIND.

WHAT HAPPENED TO "*POLICE ETHICS*" AND "*OBSTRUCTION*" AND ALL THAT OTHER STUFF?

IT'S ***CRAP.***

COPS USED TO BEAT CONFESSIONS OUT OF SUSPECTS. SOME STILL DO.

THE POINT BEING, SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO BREAK THE LAW TO ***UPHOLD*** IT.

I'M NOT NAIVE AND YOU GUYS NEED MY HELP FOR HIDING--

--WE'LL THINK ABOUT IT, COOPER.

MEANTIME, THOUGH, YOU KEEP THIS ALL TO YOURSELF.

"SO WHO ARE ***YOU*** REALLY?"

Fifth Precinct Tech-level Holding Cell.

24 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS? I'M A CHORUS BOY FROM AN UPCOMING HIT BROADWAY SHOW!

LOOK, I'M NOT JOKING AROUND HERE.

REALLY? BECAUSE BETWEEN THE HANDCUFFS AND THE ARMED GUARDS, I WAS THINKING YOU REALLY KNOW YOUR WAY AROUND A PRACTICAL JOKE...

HEY, DON'T I GET ONE CALL TO ACTOR'S EQUITY?

THANKS FOR REMINDING ME ABOUT THE HANDCUFFS. WE'LL DO THIS THE EASY WAY--

WAIT.

PALONE! GET YOUR HANDS *OFF* MY CLIENT.

RIGHT NOW. I'M NOT KIDDING AROUND.

THANK YOU, SWEET MERCIFUL KARMA.

I GOT A RIGHT TO INTERROGATE MY SUSPECT FACE-TO-FACE, MR. MURDOCK.

WELL, WE'RE GONNA SEE WHAT A JUDGE THINKS ABOUT THAT.

YOU'RE SERIOUS WITH THIS?

I'M A BLIND LAWYER WITH A HISTORY OF INCARCERATION AND PERSONAL TRAGEDY.

WHAT IN THAT MAKE-UP MAKES YOU THINK I HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR?

SO HERE'S WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN. MY CLIENT IS GOING TO EXERCISE HIS RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT--

DARN RIGHT.

--NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT THAT MAY BE FOR HIM.

YOU'RE GOING TO PROCESS HIM THROUGH CENTRAL BOOKING *WITHOUT* TAKING HIS PRINTS AND HE'S GOING TO GET ARRAIGNED.

AND IF ALL THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN *EXACTLY* AS DESCRIBED AND WITHOUT INCIDENT, I'M FILING A *1983* SUIT AGAINST YOU AND YOUR ENTIRE DEPARTMENT, AND MY CLIENT WILL OWN YOUR *HOUSE.*

DO WE HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING?

I GUESS SO.

YOU'RE A BEAUTIFUL MAN.

BEING BLIND, I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOUR WORD FOR THAT.

DETECTIVE, THE DESK JUST CALLED. THERE'S SOMEONE IN YOUR OFFICE NEEDS TO TALK TO YA.

JUST WHAT I NEED. THIS IS ONE HELL OF A NIGHT.

GET THE SPIDER READY FOR THE MOVE TO RYKER'S.

I'M IN REAL TROUBLE HERE, AREN'T I?

DOES IT FEEL LIKE *IMAGINARY* TROUBLE?

NO. WHICH IS PROBABLY WHY IT'S BEST IF I GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE BEFORE SOMEONE TRIES TO TAKE MY MASK OFF WITHOUT AN ATTORNEY PRESENT.

ACTUALLY, IT WOULD BE THAT *OPPOSITE* OF "*BEST.*"

WHAT?

WELL, I WASN'T WILLING TO CHANCE BREAKING A NAIL, BUT...

LOOK, WE BOTH KNOW YOU'RE FULLY CAPABLE OF ESCAPING FROM THIS PLACE. YOU COULD PROBABLY SHATTER THOSE RESTRAINTS ANY TIME YOU WANTED.

BUT WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP? *AFTER* YOU ESCAPE, WHAT'S NEXT?

YOU THINK THINGS ARE BAD FOR YOU NOW? WHAT HAPPENS ONCE YOU'RE A FUGITIVE FROM CUSTODY? YOU'RE VIOLATING THE S.R.A. AS IT IS.

PALONE CAN FEDERALIZE THIS CASE WITH A *PHONE CALL.* YOU WANT TO PUT YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AT RISK BY BEING WITH YOU IF--NO, *WHEN*--S.H.I.E.L.D. AND/OR THE FBI TRIES TO TAKE YOU DOWN?

THE SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT.
--"CIVIL WAR" READIN' STEVE.

TAKE IT FROM ME: YOUR ENTIRE LIFE CAN DISAPPEAR IN AN EYEBLINK.

...

SO...I JUST ROT IN JAIL? UNTIL WHEN?

UNTIL I GET YOU *OUT.*

"MAKE IT QUICK."

Sgt. Palone's Office.

I'M IN A LOUSY MOOD.

I KNOW WHO'S BEHIND THE "*SPIDER-TRACER KILLINGS.*"

EXCEPT THEY'RE NOT *KILLINGS.* NOT EXACTLY.

THESE WERE UNRELATED MURDERS AND DEATHS THAT A GROUP OF *YOUR OFFICERS* PLANTED SPIDER-TRACERS ON *AFTER* THE FACT, PALONE.

IS THAT QUICK ENOUGH?

I'D SAY SO. I'M A LITTLE CURIOUS, THOUGH...

YOU SAY THERE'S *COPS* INVOLVED. WHY BLOW THE WHISTLE ON OTHER COPS?

I BECAME A COP TO PUNISH PEOPLE WHO BREAK THE LAW.

Ryker's Island Prison.
23 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.
SPIDER-MAN...
COMPLIMENTS OF YOUR LAWYER. HE WANTS YOU LOOKING NICE FOR YOUR BIG COURT APPEARANCE.
THANKS.
NOT FOR NOTHING, BUT I HOPE IT GOES ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TODAY.
REALLY?
I WASN'T ALWAYS A D.O.C. GUARD. ORIGINALLY, I WAS ON THE JOB. NYPD.
I HAD TO DROP OFF THE FORCE ON ACCOUNT OF A BAD LEG. GOT INJURED DURING A BANK ROBBERY. IT WAS THAT OCTOPUS GUY.
YOU PROBABLY DON'T REMEMBER.
WELL, I...
POINT BEING, IF *YOU* HADN'T GOTTEN INVOLVED, I WOULD'VE BEEN HURT A *LOT* WORSE THAN MY LEG.
AND MY KIDS-- I GOT TWO YOUNG GIRLS--THEY WOULD'VE LOST THEIR DADDY.

SO THAT'S A LONG WAY OF SAYIN'...GOOD LUCK TODAY.

CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

CITY OF NEW YORK

Soon...

ARE YOU PREPARED TO ENTER A PLEA AT THIS TIME?

UMM...NOT GUILTY.

"SPIDER-MAN ENTERED A PLEA OF NOT GUILTY..."

...AND, BOY, WAS THAT A SHOCKER. PLEASE NOTE MY SARCASM, MICHAEL.

NOTED, SAMARA. BUT THERE WAS ONE FAIRLY BIG SURPRISE AT HIS ARRAIGNMENT.

THAT'S TRUE. I EXPECTED HIM TO BE UNMASKED RIGHT THEN AND THERE.

HE PROBABLY WOULD'VE BEEN IF NOT FOR SOME VERY FANCY LEGAL FOOTWORK FROM HIS ATTORNEY, MATTHEW MURDOCK...

BUT DON'T TAKE THEIR WORD FOR IT. READ "THE SPARTACUS GAMBIT" FOR FREE ON MARVEL.COM!!--WWW.ACKER

Campaign Headquarters, Hollister For New York.

12 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.

THAT'S PROBABLY WHY THEY CALL MURDOCK THE "LAWYER WITHOUT FEAR," SAMARA...

"LAWYER WITHOUT ETHICS" IS MORE LIKE IT.

YOUR DAD'S A LAWYER, LILY. OR HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?

ISN'T THAT A REDUNDANCY?

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE A LAWYER FOR MUCH LONGER. BY THIS TIME TOMORROW, THEY'LL BE CALLING YOU, "*YOUR HONOR.*" MAYOR-ELECT OF NEW YORK CITY.

SOUNDS LIKE YOU KNOW SOMETHING I DON'T.

I DON'T KNOW WHY NOT. WE'RE BOTH READING THE SAME POLLING NUMBERS.

THE SPIDER-BUMP YOU'RE GETTING--

SPIDER-BUMP?

THAT'S WHAT THEY'RE CALLING THE SURGE YOU'RE GETTING OUT OF SPIDER-MAN'S ARREST.

LIKELY VOTERS. Sunday 6PM to Monday 6PM

WHO'S THEY?

WELL, *ME.* BUT IT'S CATCHING ON.

I'LL BET IT IS.

YOU KNOW ME, DADDY...

ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP.

"CAN I HELP YOU?"

'SCUSE ME?

YOU'VE BEEN STARING AT ME FOR, LIKE, SEVEN BLOCKS NOW. STARTING TO WEIRD ME OUT A LITTLE.

I'M NOT STARING AT YOU, VIN. YOU'RE NOT MY TYPE.

CUTE.

YOU *REALLY* GONNA TELL ME WE DON'T HAVE A PROBLEM HERE?

WITH CARLIE, I MEAN.

YOU MEAN, DO I HAVE A CONCERN OR TWO THAT MAYBE YOUR *GIRLFRIEND--*

SHE'S NOT MY GIRLFRIEND--

--THAT MAYBE SHE WAS SLINGING US A LINE OF BULL BACK AT YOUR APARTMENT, BUYING SOME TIME--

TO DO *WHAT?*

GET THE HELL AWAY FROM ME FOR ONE THING.

WHY? WHAT WERE YOU GONNA DO?

I JUST WISH YOU HADN'T BEEN SO FRIGGIN' STUPID WITH THE TRACERS, MAN.

5-OH EDDIE...5-OH EDDIE...THIS IS CENTRAL-K...

5-OH RESPONDING, CENTRAL...

OFFICER O'NEIL, PLEASE GO OFF-SPEAKER FOR SERGEANT PALONE.

PALONE--?

YES SIR?

YES SIR.

NO, I UNDERSTAND.

WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
PULL OVER HERE.
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
CHIK
WARRANTS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR YOU AND CARLIE.
WHAT--
SUSPICION OF AIDING AND ABETTING SPIDER-MAN IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRACER KILLINGS--
ARE YOU INSANE--
I WITNESSED YOU IN POSSESSION OF AT LEAST A DOZEN OF THESE SPIDER-TRACERS--
THAT'S--!
--AND WE'VE GOT A SWORN AFFIDAVIT FROM JULIAN BECK IN C.S.U. SAYING HE BUILT A TRACER-TRACKER FOR CARLIE--
YOU'RE SETTING US UP--!
I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS. I REALLY AM.
BUT YOU AND YOUR GIRLFRIEND STEPPED IN IT *DEEP* HERE. YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW *HOW* DEEP.
I'M STARTING TO GET AN IDEA.
SHE WENT TO PALONE. AND PALONE'S BEEN PRETTY DAMN *TWITCHY* EVER SINCE...

EVER SINCE WHAT?

YOU SHOULDN'T'VE KEPT THE TRACERS IN YOUR HOUSE, YOU IDIOT...

WHY HAS PALONE FREAKED? WHY IS HE HAVING YOU SET ME AND CARLIE UP?

ALL ANY OF US DID WAS DROP SOME PIECES OF PLASTIC AND METAL ON A FEW DEAD BODIES...

THAT *IS* ALL WE DID, RIGHT?

AL?

YOU KNOW JOHNNY LADUE, *THE BOOKIE?*

YEAH...

HE FIGURED OUT ALL THE "*TRACER KILLINGS*" WERE CAUGHT BY UNIFORMED OFFICERS WORKING OUT OF *OUR* PRECINCT.

FROM ASM#582 -WACKER

JEEZ...

AL, TELL ME--PALONE WOULDN'T--

IT'S LIKE I SAID, VIN...

YOU STEPPED IN IT *DEEP.*

YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY...

...IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD AN ATTORNEY, ONE WILL BE PROVIDED...

"DON'T MOVE NOW..."

Ryker's Island.
10 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.
DO I LOOK LIKE I'M STRUGGLING?
RYKERS
CORRECTION DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK
ISLAN
NO. BUT YOU GOTTA ASK YOURSELF WHY NOT? I MEAN, YOU COULD BUST OUTTA HERE ANYTIME YOU WANTED TO, RIGHT?
LEMME GUESS. YOU LIKE THE ACCOMMODATIONS.
CAN'T SAY THE THOUGHT HASN'T OCCURRED TO ME.
HOW'D YOU KNOW?
SERIOUSLY.
SERIOUSLY, A FRIEND OF MINE CONVINCED ME TO STAY PUT. SO THIS IS ME STAYING PUT.
PROBABLY JUST AS WELL. EVEN IF YOU COULD GET OUTTA YOUR CELL, YOU'D STILL HAVE TO GET THROUGH THE HUNDRED OR SO GUYS IN GEN-POP.
A HUNDRED?
OR SO. SOME'RE EVEN SUPER-VILLAINS. D-LISTERS MOSTLY. THEY RAN OUTTA ROOM ON THE RAFT.
THE PRISON THAT HOUSES THE CITY'S INCARCERATED SUPER-VILLAINS.
--"CIVIL RIGHTS" STEVE.
GUESS I BETTER STAY PUT, THEN--
VIN?!
FRIEND OF YOURS?
N.Y.D.O.C.

WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?

HE WAS ARRESTED FOR BREAKING THE LAW? I'M JUST GUESSING.

BUT WHO KNOWS THERE MIGHT BE *ANOTHER EXPLANATION* FOR THE PRISON JUMPSUIT AND HANDCUFFS.

THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE...HE'S A COP.

IF THAT'S TRUE, I'LL BET HE'S GONNA BE REAL *POPULAR* IN GENERAL POPULATION.

"I'VE GOT A REAL PROBLEM HERE."

One Phone Call Later.

8 HOURS UNTIL POLLS OPEN.

BETWEEN THE JAIL, THE HANDCUFFS AND THE MURDER CHARGE, WHICH WAS YOUR FIRST CLUE?

I'M SERIOUS.

CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE CHANGED.

A FRIEND OF MINE--KIND OF--GOT ARRESTED AND NOW HE'S GOING INTO GEN-POP WHERE HE'S GONNA BE CARVED UP LIKE MEAT... I CAN'T JUST SIT BY WHILE THAT HAPPENS...

Election Day.

WHAT'S THIS?

LAW BOOK. I FIGURED IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE ON TRIAL FOR YOUR LIFE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL STUDY UP.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO GET ME OUT OF THIS.

I'M TRYING TO KEEP YOUR MASK ON AND GET YOU OUT OF THAT CIVIL SUIT.

SPIDEY WAS SLAPPED WITH A LAWSUIT BY A GUY HE RESCUED WAAAAAY BACK IN ISSUE #550. --"SUMMARY JUDGMENT" STEVE.

IT'S GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE MORE THAN WHAT I'VE GOT PLANNED TO GET THE *CRIMINAL* CHARGES AGAINST YOU DROPPED.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED?

IF I TOLD YOU, IT WOULDN'T BE A SURPRISE.

YOU CAN SPOIL IT FOR ME. SOMETHING TELLS ME I'M GOING TO PAY ATTENTION ANYWAY.

"WELL, YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENED NEXT."

I KNOW I DON'T BELIEVE IT, MICHAEL.

THE JUDGE RULED THAT SPIDER-MAN'S MASK STAYS ON.

BUT THAT WASN'T THE SURPRISING PART.

THOUGH I CERTAINLY DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING.

RIGHT. THE REAL SURPRISE WAS, WELL, WHO SHOWED UP.

TWO IN ONE

MAYBE IF WE JUST SHOWED THE FOOTAGE CAPTURED BY THE COURTROOM'S SECURITY CAMERA...

THIS PRETTY MUCH SAYS IT ALL, I THINK.

"WHERE'D IRON FIST GET THE WEB-SHOOTER?"

THEY CONFISCATED MINE AT CENTRAL BOOKING.

APPARENTLY, SOMEONE BROKE INTO THE EVIDENCE LOCKER LAST NIGHT. TRAGIC.

TELL ME YOU DIDN'T BREAK INTO ANY N.Y.P.D. EVIDENCE LOCKER.

I DIDN'T. AND I'M OFFENDED YOU THINK I WOULD. THE WEB-SHOOTER JUST... SHOWED UP. I DON'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS.

ON AN UNRELATED POINT, BLACK CAT SENDS HER REGARDS.

DON'T FORGET TO READ THAT BOOK.

HOW MUCH DO I LOVE THAT GUY?

Oscorp Building. Norman's Secret Room.

POLLS CLOSE IN 11 HOURS.

FINAL TALLY...

ONE GOBLIN GLIDER.

ONE PNEUMATIC DART GUN.

ONE PAIR OF GOBLIN GLOVES.

ONE GOBLIN MASK.

ALL MISSING.

OF ALL OF THE RAIDS INTO MY SECRET STASH IN THE PAST MONTHS, THIS ONE'S BY FAR THE BIGGEST.

HARRY DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER HIDING HIS TRACKS THIS TIME.

WHICH MEANS HARRY'S EITHER GOTTEN A LOT BOLDER THAN I'D EVER GIVE HIM CREDIT FOR...

OR IT'S POSSIBLE I'VE BEEN WRONG ABOUT WHO'S BEEN IN HERE.

Ryker's Island.

MY TURN. I'M IN HERE 'CAUSE OF GUYS LIKE HIM.

JUST LEAVE SOME FOR ME.

YEAH, KEEP HIM *INTACT.*

FOR A LITTLE WHILE, AT LEAST.

GFN--

CHAK

VIN...

OKAY, THEN. SIMPLE CHOICE.

COMMIT TO WHAT COULD BE A LIFETIME OF BEING ON THE RUN...

OR LET YOUR ***FRIEND*** ROT IN JAIL FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.

THWIP

WHICH LOOKS TO BE ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES.

DID I SAY IT WAS A *CHOICE?*

THWIP

MY BAD.

WELL, THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT IF THIS DOESN'T WORK...

EVERYONE'LL JUST THINK I HUNG MYSELF IN MY CELL.

GOOD TIMES.

COME... ON...

THE INHIBITOR COLLAR MAY KEEP ME FROM HAVING THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH OF A SPIDER...

OUCH.

BUT IT CAN'T INHIBIT BASIC LAWS OF *PHYSICS.*

GGGR--

LIKE MY CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND ARCHIMEDES SAID...

UNGH--

"GIVE ME A LEVER BIG ENOUGH AND...

RRR--

"...I'LL MOVE... MOVE... THE...

...WORLD...

YEAH, BABY. GONNA ROAST US SOME PORK TODAY...

NGH... GH...

CHAK

UGNF--

YOU GUYS'RE GONNA *KILL* HIM BEFORE I EVEN GET MY SHOTS IN.

WHAT ABOUT *MY* SHOTS?

WHAT ABOUT 'EM?

HEY, SAILORS...

I THINK I'VE GOT A SOLUTION THAT MIGHT WORK FOR *EVERYBODY*...

I TAKE OFFICER GONZALES HERE AND WE LEAVE YOU GUYS TO YOUR NIGHTLY PARCHEESI GAME.

B-21

OR NOT.

BLURG.

WHY DOESN'T ANYBODY PLAY PARCHEESI ANYMORE?

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #588

Ryker's Island. Election Day.

POLLS CLOSE IN 10 HOURS.

OKAY, QUICK MENTAL CALCULATION...

EXACTLY HOW MANY OF THESE GUYS AM I RESPONSIBLE FOR INCARCERATING?

HMM. FUNNY.

I'VE GOT AN I.Q. NORTH OF 250 AND CAN BALANCE COMPLEX CHEMICAL EQUATIONS IN MY SLEEP...

BUT I CAN'T COUNT THAT HIGH.

GUYS...

I KNOW YOU'RE PEEVED, OKAY. AND YOU HAVE *EVERY RIGHT* TO BE.

BUT YOU WOULDN'T TRY TO HIT A GUY WITH A BULLET HOLE IN HIS ARM, WOULD YOU?

CONCLUSION

MARC GUGGENHEIM | WRITER
JOHN ROMITA JR. | PENCILS
KLAUS JANSON | INKS
TOM PALMER | INKS, PAGES 27-29, 31&32
DEAN WHITE | COLORS
VC'S CORY PETIT | LETTERS

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DAN BUCKLEY | PUBLISHER
ALAN FINE | EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

GALE, GUGGENHEIM & SLOTT SPIDEY'S BRAINTRUST...=SNF=

I GUESS YOU WOULD.

Y'KNOW, IN A MINUTE OR SO, THE GUARDS ARE GONNA GET OFF THEIR COFFEE BREAK OR BATHROOM BREAK OR WHATEVER IT IS, AND THEY'RE NOT GONNA LIKE WHAT THEY FIND.

THE GUARDS ARE *PAID OFF.*

WE WANTED SOME PRIVACY WHILE WE GAVE YOUR FRIEND A TUNE-UP.

COULD YOU *PLEASE* STOP HITTING ME?

PRETTY PLEASE?

SUPER DOUBLE PRETTY PLEASE?

WHOA

GUESS NOT.

AH, WELL. I FIGURED IT WAS *WORTH* A *TRY.*

HEY, VINNY, MY MAN! REMEMBER THE LAST TIME WE SAW EACH OTHER? YOU *CLOCKED* ME ONE, REMEMBER?

YEAH, SO?

I DO! IT WAS AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #567. DO I WIN A PRIZE? -WACKER

JUST SAYING... GOOD TIMES.

HEY! WHAT'S THIS? WHY IT LOOKS LIKE A GENUINE *WEB-SHOOTER!*

ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTES.

HOW'D I GET *THIS* THROUGH PRISON SECURITY, I WONDER!

THWIP

IT'S SHODDY, THE STATE OF THE CORRECTIONS SYSTEM THESE DAYS. *SHODDY.*

I MEAN, WHAT AM I PAYING *TAXES* FOR, ANYWAY?

SAY, THAT REMINDS ME: TAXES. GOVERNMENT. ELECTIONS...

NY D.O.C

IT'S ELECTION DAY IN THE BIG APPLE!

HEY, VIN, HAVE YOU *VOTED* YET?

ARE YOU KIDDING?

ME NEITHER.

C'MON! THE POLLS WON'T STAY OPEN FOREVER!

SRRAK

WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU DOING?

THIS IS YOUR FIRST PRISON BREAK, CLEARLY.

YOU'RE ***DERANGED.*** I'M A COP, DAMMIT. I CAN'T BUST OUTTA PRISON.

YOU MIGHT'VE MISSED IT BACK THERE, WHAT WITH YOU GETTING BEATEN SENSELESS AND ALL, BUT DID YOU NOTICE HOW THEY SAID THE ***GUARDS*** ARE ON THE TAKE?

HOW LONG DO YOU FIGURE YOU'RE GONNA LAST IN HERE WITHOUT ***PROTECTION?***

AND YOU THINK THOSE GUARDS'RE JUST GONNA LET US ***WALK*** OUT OF HERE?

NO, I SUSPECT SOME RUNNING AND JUMPING WILL ALSO BE INVOLVED.

FREEZE!

"EVERYTHING'S GOING GREAT, DAD."

Campaign Headquarters, Hollister For New York.

POLLS CLOSE IN 9 HOURS.

EARLY EXIT POLLS ARE SOLID. *MORE* THAN SOLID.

THIS KEEPS UP-- AND THERE'S NO REASON TO THINK IT *WON'T*--YOU WIN BY AT LEAST FIFTEEN POINTS. *LANDSLIDE* TERRITORY.

LET'S NOT GET AHEAD OF OURSELVES, LILY. "*OVERCONFIDENCE IS THE DOWNFALL OF ELECTIONEERING.*"

WHO SAID THAT?

I DID. BUT THE FACT I'M NOT QUOTING SOMEONE ELSE DOESN'T MAKE IT ANY LESS TRUE.

MR. HOLLISTER, MS. HOLLISTER...

THERE'S SOMEONE HERE TO SEE--

LILY! BILL!

CARLIE, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? YOU LOOK TERRIBLE--

IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?

NO. NO, NOTHING'S ALL RIGHT.

THE ENTIRE *NYPD* IS AFTER ME FOR A CRIME *THEY* COMMITTED.

WHAT KIND OF CRIME IS IT, REALLY?

THAT'S THE QUESTION HE ASKS HIMSELF.

IT CAN'T BE THE THEFT OF THESE ITEMS, THESE TOTEMS, FROM HIS FATHER'S HIDDEN CACHE.

IT' CAN'T BE WHAT HE PLANS TO DO WITH THEM, THE INTENTION OF STOPPING THE RAMPAGE OF HIS GIRLFRIEND.

OR IS SHE NOW HIS FIANCÉE?

REGARDLESS, SHE NEEDS TO BE STOPPED AND HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DO IT.

SO WHAT'S THE CRIME, REALLY?

WERE HARRY OSBORN CAPABLE OF BEING HONEST WITH HIMSELF, HE'D KNOW THE ANSWER.

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH WHAT HE'S DOING.

THERE'S HARDLY ANYTHING WRONG, IN FACT, WITH HOW HE PLANS TO DO IT.

WHAT'S WRONG... THE REASON PART OF HIM FEELS SO BAD...

...IS THAT THIS FEELS SO GOOD.

AND THERE'S NO CRIME IN THAT.

FR-FREEZE. I'M SERIOUS.

DO I LOOK LIKE I'M JOKING AROUND HERE?

OKAY, WELL, ADMITTEDLY, I DO JOKE AROUND A LOT, THAT'S TRUE, BUT...

WONDERFUL.

THE GUARD WHO BROUGHT ME MY COSTUME.THE ONE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER IN THE ENTIRE CITY--

AH, WHO AM I KIDDING? THE *STATE.*

--WHO ACTUALLY LIKES ME.

AND I HAVE TO DO *THIS* TO HIM.

I'M SORRY ABOUT THIS, REALLY. YOU WERE THE ONLY GUY IN HERE WHO'S BEEN DECENT TO ME.

THWAP

AND *THIS.*

TOK

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

THIS ISN'T EXACTLY AN IDEAL TIME FOR CONVERSATION, OFFICER GONZALES.

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY I'M *IN* HERE.

KRNCH

I CAN ONLY ASSUME YOU WERE THE VICTIM OF A *TRAGIC* MISUNDERSTANDING...

...MUCH THE SAME WAY I WAS.

NO ÷GNF÷ I *WASN'T*. NOT ÷FGH÷ REALLY.

I'M ONLY GOING ALONG WITH THIS BECAUSE MY FRIEND CARLIE-- YOU KNOW HER, REMEMBER?--*SHE'S* THE ONE INNOCENT VICTIM IN ALL THIS.

SPEAK FOR YOURSELF.

SHRAK

I'M *PLENTY* INNOCENT.

STOP RIGHT THERE!

NOT THAT *ANYONE* BELIEVES ME.

CASE IN POINT.

GNF--

GRAB ON!

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M DOING...

...THIIIIIS!!!

PASSENGER SEAT! *MOVE!*

WHAT ARE YOU *DOING?*

JUST COMPLETING A CLOSED LOOP THROUGH THE VOLTAGE SOURCE BY CONNECTING TWO LINEAR DISTRIBUTED ELEMENTS...

...TO START THE IGNITION.

KLK

NOW LET'S BOTH THANK KARL BENZ AND NIKOLAUS OTTO FOR THIS ESCAPE!

VVVROOOOOM

"WHAT DO YOU MEAN *NOW* THE POLICE ARE AFTER YOU?"

Hollister H.Q.
POLLS CLOSE IN 8 HOURS.
EXACTLY WHAT I SAID. THIS IS A CONSPIRACY AND I DON'T KNOW HOW DEEP IT GOES.
I SLEPT IN AN ALLEY LAST NIGHT, WAITING FOR YOUR OFFICES TO OPEN.
YOU SHOULD HAVE CALLED THE HOUSE, CARLIE.
WE WOULD'VE COME ANYWHERE TO GET YOU.
EXACTLY, HONEY. WE'RE GOING TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.
FIRST STEP, I'LL GET THE CHIEF OF DETECTIVES OVER HERE AND WE'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF--
FREEZE!
CARLIE COOPER, YOU'RE UNDER ARREST--
TOO LATE, AL.
I ALREADY TOLD THEM.

OKAY, UM, SINCE WE SEEM TO HAVE A MOMENT HERE...

YOU'LL LET *ME* DRIVE?

'CAUSE I'M SERIOUS, YOU BEHIND THE WHEEL IS THE SCARIEST THING I'VE EVER SEEN AND I JUST CAME FROM A PRISON FULL OF CRIMINALS LOOKING TO *KILL* ME.

TELL ME ABOUT IT! I DON'T EVEN HAVE A LICENSE!

NOW LET'S FOCUS ON TELLING ME WHAT YOU DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO TELL ME BEFORE.

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR ME TO TELL YOU ***NOW.*** CARLIE'S IN TROUBLE, REMEMBER?

I ***DO,*** WHICH IS KIND OF WHY I WANTED TO KNOW WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON.

I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE FUN IF WE STARTED WITH WHAT YOU WERE DOING IN PRISON IN THE ***FIRST*** PLACE.

IT'S BECAUSE OF ***YOU.***

IF I WASN'T KEEPING MY EYES ON THE ROAD SO AS NOT TO CRASH INTO THE HUDSON RIVER, I'D BE GIVING YOU A *"WHAT THE HECK'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?"* STARE RIGHT NOW.

IT'S BECAUSE OF THE TRACER-KILLINGS.

"YOU DON'T KNOW ZIP ABOUT THEM."

MAKE UP YOUR MIND, AL. EITHER I'M BEHIND THE TRACER-KILLINGS-- EXCUSE ME, TRACER *FRAME-UPS*-- OR I'M NOT--

WE'LL TALK ABOUT IT DOWNTOWN--

THE HELL WE WILL--

ALL RIGHT, LOOK, I'M NOT LETTING YOU TAKE THIS GIRL FROM MY OFFICE WHILE SHE'S *CLAIMING* TO BE A VICTIM OF SOME KIND OF POLICE *VENDETTA*--

DUE RESPECT, SIR...

...YOU AIN'T MAYOR YET.

C'MERE--

GET OFF ME, O'NEIL!

LET HER GO!

YOU TWO WANT TO FILE A COMPLAINT OR SOMETHING, MY BADGE NUMBER'S 4587.

GET 'ER OUT OF HERE.

"YOU'VE GOT EVERY RIGHT TO BE ANGRY."

THANKS. THAT'S VERY CONSIDERATE OF YOU.

LOOK, WHAT YOU DO...YOU'RE BREAKING THE LAW. YOU KNOW THAT.

I ALSO KNOW I'M DOING A LITTLE SOMETHING CALLED *HELPING PEOPLE.*

YOU AND YOUR FELLOW OFFICERS MIGHT WANT TO TRY IT SOMETIME INSTEAD OF PUTTING YOUR ENERGIES INTO *FRAMING* INNOCENT--

ALL UNITS, ALL UNITS...

÷ZZZT÷ 217 IN PROGRESS IN GRAMERCY PARK ÷ZZZT÷

MENACE ATTACKING. OFFICERS NEED ASSISTANCE...

NY DOC

I'VE GOT TO GO--

BUT I'VE GOTTA GET TO CARLIE'S. MAKE SURE SHE'S OKAY--

MOTOR'S STILL RUNNING. KNOCK YOURSELF OUT.

GET AWAY FROM MY FRIEND!!!!

Outside Hollister H.Q.

WHERE THE HELL DID HE COME FROM?!

BAM

WHOEVER YOU ARE, MENACE, WE ARE SO *NOT* FRIENDS.

DOESN'T MEAN I'M NOT *GRATEFUL* FOR THE DISTRACTION, THOUGH...

BOOM

...OR FOR THE CHANCE TO GRAB THOSE KEYS OFF AL'S BELT...

FOOM

WAIT! STOP!

NO STANDING Thurs 5-7 pm

I HAVEN'T COME UP WITH A WITTY ENTRANCE LINE YET!

SHNK

NO, WAIT. I GOT IT...

THIS IS FOR FEEDING ME TO THE COPS, UGLYFACE!

OKAY, SO MAYBE THAT WASN'T SO WITTY, BUT IN MY DEFENSE, I'VE BEEN SHOT AT, SHOT *UP*, BEATEN UP AND THROWN IN JAIL WITH A HUNDRED GUYS WHO *HATE* ME.

MY SENSE OF HUMOR NEEDS SOME ADJUSTMENT.

AND HOW WAS YOUR DAY?

WITH YOU HERE NOW, IT'S *PERFECT.*

AT LEAST, IT WILL BE IN A *MOMENT.*

WHAM

GFFFT

ONCE I KILL YOU.

AGGH!

SLOWLY.

PAINFULLY.

GUY'S GOT A POINT.

SHOT, BEATEN, JAILED... HAVEN'T BEEN...HURT LIKE THIS SINCE *MORLUN.*

BARELY SURVIVED THAT. NOT SURE ABOUT THIS. CATS HAVE NINE LIVES. BUT *SPIDERS...*

I GOT VIN OUT, AT LEAST. AND MANAGED TO SAVE CARLIE.

THAT'S *SOMETHING*. NOT A BAD WAY TO END A CAREER.

OR A LIFE.

HEY, UGLY. ARE YOU GONNA FINISH THIS OR WHAT?

HAVEN'T GOT ALL DAY. STILL GOTTA VOTE. HEH.

WAIT. YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND?

YOU'RE RIGHT...

...I AM GONNA *DIE.* OF *SHOCK.*

MY QUARREL WASN'T WITH YOU THIS TIME.

I WAS ONLY INTERESTED IN HELPING MY *FRIEND.*

I MADE A MISTAKE BEFORE, LETTING YOU LIVE. BUT IT WAS A MEANS TO AN END. I NEEDED YOU ALIVE AND IN CUSTODY.

WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT?

BUT THAT'S NO LONGER NECESSARY. YOU'VE SERVED YOUR PURPOSE...

C'MON, I FIGURE I'VE GOT AT LEAST...A FEW MORE THINGS TO DO...

JUST ONE.

DIE!

GWEN...

SEE YOU SOON.

THWIP

?

FFFFFFFT

NICE TRY...

THWAP

...HARRY. THAT IS *YOU* UNDERNEATH THAT MASK, RIGHT?

I HOPE SO. I'D LIKE TO THINK YOU GREW SOME.

GET OFF OF HIM, LILY!

LILY?

HARRY?!

IT *SOUNDS* LIKE HARRY.

PLEASE DON'T LET IT BE HARRY.

WHAT WAS THIS SUPPOSED TO DO TO ME, I WONDER?

LET'S FIND OUT.

NO...

YUP.

SHUNK

ARE YOU GETTING THIS?

HOLY...

ARE YOU GETTING THIS?

YEAH... YEAH, I'M GETTING IT.

THIS IS GOING OUT LIVE.

...JUST OUTSIDE HOLLISTER HEADQUARTERS AND "MENACE" IS DOWN BUT LOOKS TO BE CONVULSING.. AND...

EVERYONE... GET OUT...

...AND CHANGING... INTO SOMETHING ELSE....

SIR?

I SAID GET OUT, DAMMIT.

SIR...?

SIR, I KNOW THIS PROBABLY ISN'T THE TIME...BUT WE TALKED IT OVER... THE STAFF, I MEAN, AND...WELL, WE THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW...

THEY HAVEN'T ANNOUNCED IT YET, BUT *WNYC*, *WNBC*, *WWOR* AND *WPIX* ARE ALL PROJECTING YOU THE WINNER, SIR.

YOU'RE THE NEXT MAYOR OF NEW YORK CITY.

HEY. HOLD IT RIGHT THERE. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE IN *RYKER'S*--

YEAH, FUNNY THAT... BUT WHAT I COULD *REALLY* USE IS A HOSP-- A HOSPITAL.

SORRY. OTHER PLANS.

HEY!

FREEZE!

HOLD ON.

Minutes Later.

YOU SHOULD BE OKAY HERE. LONG ENOUGH TO CATCH YOUR BREATH, AT ANY RATE.

WAIT.

I CAN'T-- YOU CAN'T--

SORRY.

HARRY...

"HAVE TO... HAVE TO GET AWAY..."

GOTTA TRY TO GET BACK INTO BILL'S HOUSE THROUGH THE BACK ENTRANCE BEFORE ANYONE--

CARLIE!

STOP!

VIN!

ARE YOU OKAY?

VIN! I'M FINE--

TRIED GOING TO YOUR PLACE, BUT PALONE'S GOT A BLACK-AND-WHITE PARKED OUTSIDE IT, WAITING FOR YOU.

WHICH IS WHY I COULDN'T GO BACK THERE. HOW'D YOU--?

CALLED HOLLISTER. I FIGURED YOU'D REACH OUT TO *HIM*. HE FILLED ME IN AND I HAULED BUTT DOWN HERE.

WHAT ABOUT *YOU*? ARE *YOU* OKAY?

VIN--

THIS IS ALL MY FAULT AND I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY. I SCREWED UP. I SCREWED UP EVERYTHING GETTING INVOLVED WITH THOSE GUYS. AND I'M GONNA MAKE IT RIGHT.

I'M GONNA.

"A DRAMATIC DEVELOPMENT..."

The Next Day.

LATE RETURNS SWUNG SHARPLY IN RANDALL CROWNE'S FAVOR FOLLOWING YESTERDAY AFTERNOON'S REVELATIONS ABOUT LILY HOLLISTER.

TWO IN ONE

BUT THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE THEY'LL BE ENOUGH TO ERASE BILL HOLLISTER'S MARGIN OF VICTORY, MICHAEL.

DESPITE THE VICTORY, FLASH-POLLS HAVE PEOPLE CALLING FOR HOLLISTER'S RESIGNATION BY A THREE-TO-ONE MARGIN...

"BEFORE HE'S EVEN BEEN SWORN IN. THIS IS UNPRECEDENTED."

THE DAILY BUGLE
THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF SPIDER-MAN
GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST! MAN BITES DOG! A SCANDAL ANOTHER STORY & MORE...
HOLLISTER WINS
LILY HOLLISTER ARRESTED

STRANGER THINGS HAVE HAPPENED IN THIS CITY, MICHAEL.

FOR THOSE OF YOU JOINING US LATE, HOLLISTER'S CRATERING POLL NUMBERS ARE EXPLAINED BY REPORTS THAT HIS DAUGHTER WAS SECRETELY THE WANTED SUPERHUMAN TERRORIST, MENACE.

LILY HOLLISTER WAS APPARENTLY USING THE MENACE IDENTITY TO MANIPULATE THE ELECTORATE...

Forest Hills.
HOME OF NYPD SERGEANT QUENTIN PALONE.

NEW YORKERS DON'T LIKE TO BE DEFRAUDED.

SO IT'S BEST NOT TO TICK THEM OFF.

GOOD EVENING, SARGE. SORRY FOR INTERRUPTING YOUR RELAXING EVENING DESTROYING *EVIDENCE*.

GONZALES... VIN.
I'M SURE YOU HAVE SOME VERY UNDERSTANDABLE GRIEVANCES...
SENDING ME TO PRISON? TRYING TO DO THE SAME TO MY *FRIEND?*
I WAS TRYING TO CONTAIN A DIFFICULT SITUATION...
AND HOW'S THAT WORKING OUT FOR YOU?
LOOK-- ALL RIGHT LOOK-- JUST...YOU THINK ABOUT THIS FOR A *MINUTE*...YOU'RE A POLICE OFFICER--
ENGAGED IN AN ONGOING CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY.
YOU'RE A POLICE OFFICER. YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO *SHOOT* ME?
WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT SHOOTING YOU?
OKAY. OKAY, FINE. BUT THINK. *THINK.* I GO DOWN, YOUR *PARTNER* GOES DOWN.
HIM AND EVERY OTHER COP INVOLVED IN THIS THING OF OURS.
INCLUDING *YOU.*

YOU GOT A *TASTE* OF WHAT PRISON'S LIKE. YOU THINK YOU CAN HANDLE TEN TO FIFTEEN YEARS MORE?

WHAT DO YOU THINK YOUR *DAD* WOULD SAY?

KLK

HERE'S WHAT I THINK...

...I THINK YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT. I THINK ANYTHING YOU SAY CAN BE USED AGAINST YOU. I THINK YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD AN ATTORNEY...

"I GUESS THE BIG QUESTION IS...WHAT NOW?"

IF HOLLISTER DECLINES TO BE SWORN IN AS MAYOR...WHO TAKES HIS PLACE?

TWO IN ONE

THAT'S THE MILLION DOLLAR QUESTION. THE ONLY THING FOR CERTAIN IS THAT AS FAR AS NEW YORK POLITICS ARE CONCERNED...

"...IT'S A BRAND NEW DAY."

COFFEE BEAN SINCE 1962

HEY.

YOU WANNA KNOW THE WORST THING ABOUT OWNING A COFFEE SHOP, PETE?

FNR

NO BOOZE.

PROBABLY NOT THE BEST IDEA FOR A RECOVERING ADDICT ANYWAY.

PROBABLY NOT.

I LOVED HER, PETE.

I KNOW.

I WAS GONNA MARRY HER. WE WERE GONNA HAVE KIDS. WE WERE GONNA HAVE A *LIFE.*

DO YOU THINK WE'RE CURSED, PETE?

"THE OSBORNS, I MEAN?"

HONESTLY?

YES, HARRY. I THINK YOU ARE.

"I THINK YOU'RE CURSED BY YOUR *FATHER*.

"YOU'RE SUFFERING FOR *NORMAN OSBORN'S* SINS."

BUT I THINK *EVERY* CHILD CARRIES THE BURDENS OF THEIR PARENTS.

FOR ME, THE BURDEN'S BEEN NOT HAVING ANY. AND IT'S BEEN LOSING THE MAN WHO WAS LIKE A *FATHER* TO ME.

MJ'S FATHER ABUSED HER. CARLIE'S DAD DRINKS. AND LILY...

"...WELL, OBVIOUSLY, SHE HAS HER OWN FATHER ISSUES."

MY POINT IS... WE ALL HAVE OUR CROSS TO BEAR. *ALL OF US.*

IT MAY SEEM LIKE IT'S HEAVIER FOR SOME THAN OTHERS, BUT IT'S NOT.

EVERYBODY'S GOT *SOMETHING.*

THE THING IS...THE *QUESTION* IS...WHAT DO WE *DO* ABOUT IT?

"A CURSE ONLY MEANS SOMETHING IF WE LET IT DEFINE US, HARRY. IF WE LET IT *DEFEAT* US."

IF I THOUGHT YOU WERE YOUR DAD... IF I THOUGHT YOU WERE EVER ONCE AND FOR ALL CAPABLE OF GIVING INTO THE "*OSBORN CURSE*"...

I WOULDN'T BE YOUR FRIEND.

I COULDN'T.

WELL... I'M GLAD YOU ARE.

MAKES TWO OF US, OSBORN.

YOU LOOK PRETTY BEATEN UP.

GOT INTO A BAR FIGHT. PROBABLY WAS A MISTAKE TO TALK POLITICS IN THIS TOWN ON ELECTION DAY, Y'KNOW?

FUNNY THING, I DIDN'T GET AROUND TO VOTING YESTERDAY.

NEITHER DID I.

HEH.

THEN I GUESS WE CAN'T COMPLAIN ABOUT THE NEXT FEW YEARS...

"IT'S NOT OVER."

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF SPIDER-MAN

THE DAILY BUGLE

GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST! MAN BITES DOG! - SCANDAL ANOTHER STORY & MORE....

WANTED: A MAYOR! HOLLISTER REFUSES OFFICE

I KNOW YOU *THINK* IT IS, THAT YOU'RE *DEFEATED*. I KNOW THAT FEELING *QUITE* WELL.

GO AWAY.

BUT YOU'RE *NOT* DEFEATED, LILY. YOU'RE NOT FINISHED. YOU'RE JUST GETTING *STARTED*.

GO AWAY.

I THINK THIS BELONGS TO YOU.

IT WAS FOUND ON YOUR PERSON WHEN THE POLICE TOOK YOU INTO CUSTODY.

I BELIEVE IT BELONGED TO MY WIFE...

WHICH, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, WOULD MAKE YOU MY *DAUGHTER-IN-LAW*.

LET ME BE THE FIRST TO SAY...

...WELCOME TO THE FAMILY.

End.

EXTRA!

NEW YORK CITY WEATHER – HOT!

"ALL THE SPIDEY STORIES WE CAN FIT"

3 BRAND NEW TALES!

HAMMERHEAD RETURNS
by Joe Kelly and Chris Bachalo!

THE TRIAL OF SPIDER-MAN
by Marc Guggenheim and Marcos Martin!

LAND
LEISTEN
fgd

HARRY OSBORN'S BIRTHDAY!
by Zeb Wells and Patrick Olliffe

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: EXTRA! #1

Several Weeks From Now.

IN GOD WE TRU

UNITED STATES CRIMINAL COURT

PEOPLE VERSUS JOHN DOE. DOCKET NUMBER *AF-15-1962.*

CHARGES ARE MURDER IN THE SECOND DEGREE (MULTIPLE COUNTS), ASSAULT, ASSAULT WITH INTENT, ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFFICER (MULTIPLE COUNTS) AND OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE (MULTIPLE COUNTS).

MATT MURDOCK FOR THE DEFENDANT, YOUR HONOR.

CHRIS DINGESS FOR THE PEOPLE.

MR. MURDOCK, YOUR CLIENT IS CHARGED WITH NUMEROUS FELONIES.

ARE YOU PREPARED TO ENTER A PLEA AT THIS TIME?

YES, YOUR HONOR.

YOU'RE ON.

"MALEVOLENT"	"MISANTHROPIC"	"HOWLIN"	VC'S "CRUSTY"	"TICKLISH"	"SIMPERIN"	"TERRIFIC"	"JOLTIN"	"DAN"
MARC GUGGENHEIM	MARCOS MARTIN	JAVIER RODRIGUEZ	CORY PETIT	TOM BRENNAN	STEPHEN WACKER	TOM BREVOORT	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY
WRITER	ART	COLORS	LETTERS	ASST. EDITOR	GUILTY	EXECUTIVE EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF	PUBLISHER

QUESTION OF BAIL? DO I EVEN HAVE TO ASK?

NO, YOUR HONOR, I THINK IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT THE DEFENDANT POSES A *SUBSTANTIAL* FLIGHT RISK.

ACTUALLY, I CAN'T FLY.

SPIDER-MAN?

YEAH?

NOT HELPING.

YEAH.

YOUR HONOR, MY FIRM IS PREPARED TO POST A TWO MILLION DOLLAR BOND TO SECURE DEFENDANT'S PRESENCE AT TRIAL.

THANKS.

YOU'RE WELCOME.

AS LONG AS HE'S WEARING THAT MASK, WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO YOU'D BE POSTING A BOND *FOR*.

MY REPRESENTATION, AS BOTH THE BONDSMAN AND AN OFFICER OF THE COURT, SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT.

IN ANY CASE, THE DEFENDANT IS *ALLEGEDLY* RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ARREST OF HUNDREDS OF CRIMINALS, BOTH SUPER-POWERED AND OTHERWISE. TO INCARCERATE HIM WITH SAID CRIMINALS PENDING TRIAL IS TANTAMOUNT TO A *DEATH* SENTENCE.

YOU SEEMED TO MANAGE.

MR. DINGESS IS REFERRING TO THE URBAN LEGEND THAT I'M SECRETLY DAREDEVIL, DESPITE THE FACT THAT I'M-- OH, WHAT'S THE PHRASE?-- COMPLETELY BLIND.

YOUR HONOR--

WHO ARE YOU?

MATTHEW DOWD, YOUR HONOR. I'D LIKE TO FILE MY APPEARANCE IN CONNECTION WITH CIV-4587A.

THAT'S A CIVIL CASE NUMBER.

BECAUSE IT'S A CIVIL CASE. RYAN MAXWELL VS. SPIDER-MAN *A/K/A* JOHN DOE.

Y'KNOW, I'VE HAD BETTER DAYS.

SO HAVE I.

AND THAT'S REALLY SAYING SOMETHING WITH YOUR HISTORY. YOU USUALLY HAVE IT EVEN WORSE THAN ME.

THANKS.

DON'T MENTION IT.

OUR LITIGATION HAS BEEN PREDICTABLY STYMIED BY THE FACT WE'VE BEEN UNABLE TO ASCERTAIN THE DEFENDANT'S TRUE IDENTITY.

ACCORDINGLY, I FILED A MOTION UNDER RULE 3124 THIS MORNING REQUESTING A COURT ORDER...

...TO UNMASK THE DEFENDANT.

"CAN THEY DO THAT?"

FRISK YOU WHEN YOU GO IN AND OUT OF THE COURTROOM? YES. THEY DON'T WANT ME PASSING YOU WEAPONS.

I MEANT THE UNMASKING THING.

NO, THEY CAN'T DO THAT WITHOUT PROBABLE CAUSE AND THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY.

THE S.H.R.A.* PROHIBITS THE STATE POLICE FROM UNMASKING ARRESTED HEROES...

BECAUSE THE FEDS WANT TO HAVE ALL THE FUN.

EXACTLY. BUT IF THE JUDGE THINKS THIS LAWSUIT IS SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION--

WAITAMINUTE. YOU MEAN THE JUDGE CAN UNMASK ME JUST BECAUSE I'VE BEEN SUED?

*SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT. -CIVIL WAR READIN' STEVE!

WHAT A WORLD, HUH?

YOU'VE GOTTA DO SOMETHING.

I'VE FACED DOWN DOCTOR OCTOPUS, DOCTOR DOOM... I'VE FOUGHT VENOM AND SUPER-SKRULLS. I EVEN BEAT A SENTINEL ONCE.

I CAN'T GET TAKEN OUT BY A *LAWYER!*

FORTUNATELY FOR YOU, THIS IS AN ISSUE I'VE SPENT NOT A LITTLE AMOUNT OF TIME THINKING ABOUT.

I BET.

Soon...

THIS IS RIDICULOUS. THERE'S NO CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO DRESS IN SPANDEX AND WEAR A MASK.

THERE IS A CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO PRIVACY, EMBODIED IN THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT. *GRISWOLD VS. CONNECTICUT.*

YOUR HONOR, CAN I BE HEARD ON THIS?

WHY NOT, MR. DINGESS? IT'S NOT LIKE THIS CAN BECOME ANY *MORE* OF A CIRCUS.

BY PASSING THE SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT, WHICH REQUIRES SUPER HEROES TO DISCLOSE THEIR IDENTITIES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT, CONGRESS HAS ALREADY COME DOWN IN FAVOR OF UNMASKING SUPER HEROES.

SNARK ASIDE, NO SUPERHUMAN'S RIGHT TO PRIVACY EXTENDS TO THEIR *IDENTITY.* THAT'S THE LAW OF THE LAND.

DID CONGRESS SWITCH OVER TO THE JUDICIARY BRANCH? SOMETIMES THE BRAILLE NEWSPAPERS MISS THINGS.

AND THE LAW OF THE LAND IS BEING CHALLENGED.

UNITED STATES VS. STEVE ROGERS.

ALLEGING WRONGFUL DEATH CAUSED BY THE S.H.R.A.

AND IN CONNECTION WITH SAID ACTION, WE'VE FILED AN APPEAL TO THE SUPREME COURT, CHALLENGING THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE REGISTRATION ACT.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA VS. STEVE ROGERS

UNDER *GRISWOLD*, I'D IMAGINE.

AND THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT. I'M NOTHING IF NOT CONSISTENT, JUDGE.

CLEVER LAWYERING NOTWITHSTANDING, THE PRIVACY ISSUE ISN'T RELEVANT TO MY *CIVIL* CASE.

IF THE DEFENDANT HIT MY CLIENT WITH HIS CAR, I'D HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO RUN THE LICENSE PLATE TO SEE WHO OWNS IT.

SAME THING HERE.

HE'S RIGHT, YOUR HONOR.

HE IS?

HE IS?

HE IS.

RIGHT INSOFAR AS I AGREE WITH HIS ANALOGY. REQUEST A TWENTY-FOUR HOUR RECESS.

WHAT FOR?

OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT EVIDENCE OF MY CLIENT'S "*CAR.*"

Umm...LOOK, MATLOCK...

PLEASE TELL ME YOU DIDN'T JUST PIN ALL MY HOPES ON THE SPIDER-MOBILE.

NOT EXACTLY.

SAD WHAT COMFORTS ME THESE DAYS.

HANG TOUGH.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO FIND SPIDER-MAN.

23 Hours Later.

WHAT'S THIS?

LAW BOOK. I FIGURED IF YOU'RE GOING TO BE ON TRIAL FOR YOUR LIFE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL STUDY UP.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO GET ME OUT OF THIS.

I'M TRYING TO KEEP YOUR MASK ON AND GET YOU OUT OF THE CIVIL SUIT.

IT'S GOING TO TAKE A LITTLE MORE THAN WHAT I'VE GOT PLANNED TO GET THE *CRIMINAL* CHARGES AGAINST YOU DROPPED.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED?

IF I TOLD YOU, IT WOULDN'T BE A SURPRISE.

YOU CAN SPOIL IT FOR ME. SOMETHING TELLS ME I'M GONNA PAY ATTENTION ANYWAY.

"MR. MURDOCK, DO YOU WANT TO TELL ME *WHAT* PRECISELY YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?"

ACTUALLY, LET ME REPHRASE THAT: YOU'VE GOT SIXTY SECONDS TO EXPLAIN THIS...THIS *STUNT* BEFORE I HAVE YOU HELD IN CONTEMPT.

IT'S NO "*STUNT*," YOUR HONOR.

MR. DOWD COMPARED HIS LAWSUIT TO A HIT-AND-RUN AND I AGREE.

I'M JUST DEMONSTRATING THAT THERE ARE A WIDE VARIETY OF PEOPLE WHO COULD'VE DRIVEN THE "*CAR*."

AND JUST LIKE IN MR. DOWD'S HIT-AND-RUN ANALOGY, IN ORDER TO MEET HIS BURDEN OF PROOF, HE HAS TO PROVE WHO WORE THE COSTUME ON THE DAY IN QUESTION.

BUT UNMASKING MY CLIENT *TODAY* WOULD HAVE NO EVIDENTIARY RELEVANCE.

YOUR HONOR, YOU CAN'T BE BUYING THIS--

ACTUALLY, I'M PRETTY SURE I CAN. HERE, LET ME PROVE IT...

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL DENIED.

YOUR HONOR, THERE BEING NO EVIDENCE AGAINST MY CLIENT AT PRESENT, I'D MOVE FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT IN HIS FAVOR ON THE CIVIL ACTION.

JUDGE--

GRANTED.

I'M DISMISSING, BUT WITHOUT PREJUDICE. IF MR. DOWD AND HIS CLIENT CAN PROVE WHO WAS WEARING THE SPANDEX WHEN, THEY CAN RE-FILE.

BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING THREE-FOR-THREE TODAY, MR. MURDOCK, BECAUSE I'M DENYING YOUR REQUEST FOR BAIL.

DEFENDANT IS TO BE HELD WITHOUT BAIL PENDING HIS CRIMINAL TRIAL.

"YOU COULDN'T HAVE WON THAT ONE?"

EVERYBODY'S A CRITIC.

NO, I'M GRATEFUL. REALLY. ONLY ONE THING...

WHERE'D I FIND ALL THE SPIDER-MEN?

I'M ALMOST AFRAID TO ASK. I'VE HAD PROBLEMS WITH CLONES...BUT THEN DON'T WE ALL.

SOME OF THOSE GUYS WERE DOING SOME STUFF THAT REGULAR PEOPLE IN A COSTUME COULDN'T.

THAT'S WHAT SOLD IT, ACTUALLY. NOT A LOT OF PEOPLE CAN SHOOT WEBS AND CLING TO WALLS...

OH, GOD, IT *IS* CLONES, ISN'T IT?

"NO."

"NO, ACTUALLY, REMEMBER HOW YOU WORE MY COSTUME TO HELP ME GET OUT OF THE LAWSUIT AGAINST DAREDEVIL?"

DAREDEVIL, VOL. 2 #20-25. -SUFFERIN' STEVE

"WELL, I FOUND SOME FRIENDS WHO WERE WILLING TO RETURN THE FAVOR."

WHERE'D IRON FIST GET THE WEB-SHOOTER? THEY CONFISCATED MINE AT CENTRAL BOOKING.

APPARENTLY, SOMEONE BROKE INTO THE EVIDENCE LOCKER LAST NIGHT. TRAGIC.

TELL ME YOU DIDN'T BREAK INTO AN N.Y.P.D. EVIDENCE LOCKER.

I DIDN'T. AND I'M OFFENDED YOU THINK I WOULD. THE WEB-SHOOTER JUST... SHOWED UP. I DON'T ASK ANY QUESTIONS.

ON AN UNRELATED POINT, THE BLACK CAT SENDS HER REGARDS.

THANKS FOR ALL THIS.

WAIT 'TIL YOU GET MY BILL.

WHICH INCLUDES ALL THE COSTUMES, BY THE WAY. WEAR 'EM IN GOOD HEALTH.

AND DON'T FORGET TO READ THAT BOOK.

AMERICAN CRIMINAL LAW:

CASES, STATUTES AND COMMENTS

PEMINGTON PRESS

End.

EXTRA!

NEW YORK CITY WEATHER-- PARTLY DEADLY!

"ALL THE SPIDEY STORIES WE CAN FIT"

The Night Nurse's Clinic.

ONE WEEK AFTER ELECTION DAY.

WHO DID THESE SUTURES? IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE STITCHED UP WITH A RUSTY NAIL.

IT WAS A JAILHOUSE JOB.

YOU WERE IN JAIL?

YOU DON'T WATCH THE NEWS, DO YOU?

LOOK AROUND. DO I STRIKE YOU AS SOMEONE WHO GETS OUT MUCH?

AND HERE I THOUGHT *I* WAS THE ONE WITHOUT A LIFE.

WOW. THAT'S SULKING YOU CAN SEE EVEN THROUGH THE FULL-FACE *MASK*.

SORRY. I...

I HAD KIND OF A BAD DAY.

ACTUALLY, THAT'S NOT TRUE.

I DIDN'T HAVE THE BAD DAY.

IT WAS EVERYONE *AROUND* ME.

Upper West Side.
12 HOURS EARLIER.
THIS PLACE IS SENSATIONAL. SPECTACULAR. IT'S *AMAZING.*
IT'S NOTHING.
IT'S *NICE.* THIS IS, LIKE, THE NICEST APARTMENT I'VE EVER SEEN.
YOU'VE SEEN MY APARTMENT.
YOU DON'T LIVE IN AN APARTMENT, HARRY.
TRUE. IT'S A CONDO.
NO, IT'S A *MANSION* IN APARTMENT FORM.
LIVING ROOM
KITCHEN
I CALL IT A *CONDO.* MOST PEOPLE DO, ACTUALLY.
GOOD. JOKING'S GOOD. JOKING KEEPS US FROM TALKING ABOUT THE *THING.*
FLASH IS GONNA--HE'S GONNA BE *OVERWHELMED* IS WHAT HE'S GONNA BE.
IT'S NOTHING. IT'S A PITTANCE.
COULD YOU TAKE PITY ON ME, MAYBE, AND GIVE *ME* A PITTANCE, TOO?
I'LL EVEN TAKE A PITTANCE WITH HALF THE SQUARE FOOTAGE.
YOU HAVEN'T DONE WHAT FLASH HAS DONE.
A QUARTER?

COME ON, PETE?

YOU OF *ALL* PEOPLE KNOW HOW MUCH I LIKE TO HELP FRIENDS DOWN ON THEIR LUCK.

HEH. YEAH, THANKS.

AND WHAT ABOUT *YOU*? HOW ARE *YOU* DOING?

I MEAN... ARE YOU OKAY?

KITCHEN

I'M NOT SURE.

I GUESS I'M STILL...PROCESSING. Y'KNOW, WHAT HAPPENED ON ELECTION DAY.

I KNOW IT WAS A LOT TO TAKE IN. TO *TAKE*. THAT'S WHY I'M ASKING: ARE YOU OKAY?

NO, PETE. I'M NOT. I'M *ANGRY*.

AT...THE PERSON WHOSE NAME WE WON'T SAY ALOUD?

AT LILY? YES.

BUT ALSO... *MAINLY*...AT SPIDER-MAN.

SPIDER-MAN?
EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED LAST WEEK...
TO *CARLIE*, TO *LILY*, TO VIN... *ALL* OF IT... IT WAS BECAUSE OF SPIDER-MAN.
I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT--
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS *DEFEND* HIM, PETE? *WHY?*
WELL, I--
IF THERE WASN'T A SPIDER-MAN, DO YOU REALLY THINK THERE'D BE A *MENACE?* DO YOU REALLY THINK THERE'D BE A *"SPIDER-TRACER KILLER"?*
IF THERE WASN'T A SPIDER-MAN, DO YOU REALLY THINK EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED--
--EVERYTHING I'VE DONE AND EVERYTHING THAT'S BEEN DONE *TO* ME--
--WOULD STILL HAVE HAPPENED?
WISE UP, PAL!
I'M SORRY, HARRY.
I'M SORRY THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT FOR YOU AND LILY.
KITCHEN
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO SORRY, PETE.
IT'S NOT LIKE *YOU* HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT, RIGHT?
"PEOPLE EXERCISE THEIR OWN JUDGMENT, LIVE THEIR OWN LIVES."

New York County District Attorney's Office.
EIGHT HOURS EARLIER.

HEY, VIN, IT'S WHAT YOU DO WHEN YOUR ROOMMATE GETS ARRESTED FOR A HUGE CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY.

WELL, HAVING NEVER HAD A ROOMMATE GET ARRESTED, I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOUR WORD ON THAT.

NY DOC

AND WHILE I'M THANKING YOU AND ALL...THANKS FOR NOT SAYING IT.

SAYING WHAT?

THAT I'M AN *IDIOT*. THAT I DID SOMETHING ***TERRIBLE***. THAT I SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF MYSELF.

I'M NOT HERE TO JUDGE YOU, VIN. I FIGURE THAT YOU HAD TO HAVE HAD YOUR REASONS FOR DOING WHAT YOU DID.

I HOPE SO ANYWAY.

THEY CAME TO ME WHEN I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL.

WHO?

THE...*UH*... ***GUYS***. THE OTHER GUYS ON THE FORCE.

THEIR NAMES AREN'T IMPORTANT.

"THEY'D APPARENTLY BEEN LAYING THE GROUNDWORK TO FRAME SPIDER-MAN FOR AWHILE AND WANTED TO KNOW IF I WANTED IN.*"

I JUST HATED SPIDER-MAN SO MUCH AFTER THAT. I *HATED* HIM AND--

VINCENT GONZALES?

* THIS WAS SOON AFTER "KRAVEN'S FIRST HUNT." PICK IT UP IN HARDCOVER TODAY! --SHILLING STEVE.

WE'RE READY FOR YOU.

MUSIC-FACING TIME.

THANKS FOR BEING HERE, PETE.

HANG IN THERE, BUDDY.

THEY CAN'T BLAME YOU FOR THE CHOICES THEY MAKE.

ACTUALLY, THEY *CAN*. THEY *ARE*.

DOESN'T MEAN THEY'RE RIGHT--

SHANG

THE HELL--?

GET BACK!

SHHOOOOOOMBANNNG

WHERE'S YOUR MEDICINE CABINET, LADY? THEY TOLD ME YOU GOT A MOTHERLOAD HERE!

WHO'S "THEY"?

WELL, LOOK WHO IT IS...MY OLD NO-NAME PAL FROM A FEW WEEKS BACK.*

I'VE BEEN DYIN' TO HEAR IF YOU PICKED A SUPER-VILLAIN NAME YET.

WHAT, DON'T HAVE ONE? THAT'S OKAY, I'LL HELP YOU OUT...

YOU'RE... CYBERGUY.

ELECTRO? NOPE, TAKEN.

WAIT. I GOT IT:

CARAPACE! 'CAUSE OF, Y'KNOW, THE ARMOR.

NO NEED TO THANK ME.

"THANKS FOR COMING, PETE."

*SEE SPIDEY #583. - STEVE.

ALL RIGHT, MR. GONZALES. YOUR SISTER AND I--

EXCUSE ME, BUT FOR THESE PROCEEDINGS I'M HIS *ATTORNEY.*

FINE. YOUR *ATTORNEY* AND I HAVE REACHED AN ACCEPTABLE PLEA BARGAIN.

FOR HOW LONG? HOW LONG DO I STAY IN JAIL?

SIX MONTHS.

THAT'S-- THAT'S ALL?

THAT'S ALL.

WHAT'S THE CATCH?

YOU TESTIFY AGAINST EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THE SPIDER-TRACER CONSPIRACY.

YOU'D HAVE TO NAME NAMES AGAINST YOUR FELLOW COPS, VIN.

AND HE FORFEITS HIS BADGE.

THAT'S NOT UP TO THE D.A.'S OFFICE.

IT IS IF I SAY IT IS, AND I SAY IT IS.

BESIDES, MICHELE, HE'S NOT GONNA *WANT* TO BE ON THE FORCE AFTER HE BREAKS DOWN THAT BLUE WALL AND TESTIFIES AGAINST HIS FELLOW OFFICERS.

I'M SORRY. I'M SORRY, BUT THIS IS HOW YOU ONLY DO SIX MONTHS.

THERE A PIECE OF PAPER I SIGN OR SOMETHING?

"SO LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION, 'CARAPACE'..."

...YOU KNOW THIS IS A *CLINIC*, RIGHT?

AND YOU PROBABLY KNOW THIS IS A CLINIC FOR *SUPER HEROES*...

...LIKE SAY THE DEFENDERS, POWER PACK, TWO OF THE JONAS BROTHERS, AND EVEN A STRAY AVENGER OR TWO...

--THAT WOULD BE YOURS TRULY, BY THE WAY.

CHOK

SERIOUSLY, A CLINIC THAT *SUPER HEROES* FREQUENT AND YOU THINK, "*THAT'S* THE PLACE I WANT TO RIP OFF NEXT"?!

LET ME ASK YOU, AND *BE HONEST*, ARE YOU STUPID? OR REALLY, *REALLY* STUPID?

I HAVE TO *THANK* YOU, THOUGH. AFTER THE DAY I'VE HAD, I WAS REALLY THINKING, I WAS SAYING TO MYSELF, "I WISH I HAD SOMEONE TO *HIT*."

SO PLEASE... PUT UP A FIGHT.

I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT BEING SPIDER-MAN WAS A *DISEASE* THAT *I* SUFFERED FROM.

BUT I WAS *WRONG.*

I'M JUST THE PLAGUE'S *CARRIER.*

THE DISEASE INFECTS EVERYONE AROUND ME.

HARRY WAS RIGHT.

SPIDER-MAN DESTROYS PEOPLE'S LIVES.

HE TURNS THEM INTO A MENACE.

OR A GOBLIN.

OR THE MEMBER OF A CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY.

OR, AN AMPUTEE... *NO.* I'M NOT GOING TO GO THERE.

I'M NOT GONNA GO TO HIM.

NOT TO FLASH.

JFK International Airport.
THREE HOURS EARLIER.
NYC
T. GRACE
F. Thompson
S. WACKER
FLASH?
F. Thompson
PETE!

DOWN HERE.

THOMPSON

JEEZ, *PUNY*, WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED TO *YOU?*

I, *UM*, I GOT MUGGED. AND YOU--ARE YOU OKAY?

WELL, PETE, IT SEEMS MY LEGS DIDN'T MAKE IT THROUGH CUSTOMS.

SORRY. LITTLE AMPUTATION HUMOR. THEY SAY LAUGHTER'S THE BEST MEDICINE, BUT IT'S KINDA HARD TO TOP XANAX, Y'KNOW?

I--FLASH, I'M SO SORRY.

NO, *I'M* THE ONE WHO'S SORRY. I SHOULDN'T'VE SPRUNG IT ON YOU LIKE THIS.

IT'S JUST KINDA HARD TO MENTION IN AN *EMAIL*, Y'KNOW?

"WOW..."

NIGHT NURSE IS *SCREAMING* AT ME TO STOP.

I DON'T LISTEN.

I DON'T *CARE.*

I'M SO ANGRY, SO FILLED WITH *RAGE...*

NO, THAT'S NOT TRUE. IT'S NOT RAGE.

IT'S NOT RAGE THAT HARRY MIGHT BE BECOMING THE GOBLIN AGAIN.

IT'S NOT RAGE THAT VIN FLUSHED HIS LIFE DOWN THE TOILET.

IT'S NOT RAGE THAT FLASH WILL NEVER EVEN *STAND* AGAIN.

(ALL BECAUSE OF SPIDER-MAN.)

IT'S *GUILT.*

(CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?)

...FLASH, THAT'S UNBELIEVABLY HEROIC.

IT'S NOTHING. IT'S WHAT HE WOULD'VE DONE.

WHAT *WHO* WOULD'VE DONE?

THOMPSON

SPIDEY.

IN IRAQ...HELL, EVER SINCE WE WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL...SPIDEY'S BEEN AN INSPIRATION TO ME.

I'LL TELL YA THE TRUTH, PETE. WHAT YOU CALL *"UNBELIEVABLY HEROIC"*...

...I CALL *"DOING MY JOB."* JUST LIKE SPIDER-MAN WOULD.

I BASICALLY BECAME SPIDER-MAN OUT OF GUILT.

TO *FIGHT AGAINST* THE GUILT.

SO THE PEOPLE CLOSEST TO ME *WOULDN'T* SUFFER.

EVERYTHING'S UPSIDE DOWN.

EVERYTHING'S *WRONG.*

AND *PUMMELING* THIS MORON--

--THIS "*SUPER-VILLAIN*" SO FAR DOWN ON THE D-LIST I DON'T EVEN KNOW HIS *NAME*--

--THAT'S GONNA BRING ME SOME *SATISFACTION.*

AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I TELL MYSELF.

BUT I KNOW BETTER.

I COULD BEAT THIS GUY SO BAD, HIS *GRANDCHILDREN* WOULD FEEL IT...

BUT ALL I'D FEEL AFTERWARDS IS *GUILT.*

WITH GREAT RESPONSIBILITY COMES GREAT POWER

MARC GUGGENHEIM WRITER	FABRIZIO FIORENTINO & PATRICK OLLIFFE PENCILS	JUSTICE, LIVESAY, LAPOINTE INKERS	CHUCKRY & PASSALAQUA COLORS	VC'S RUS WOOTON LETTERS	TOM BRENNAN ASST. EDITOR	STEPHEN WACKER EDITOR

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THIS IS GOING TO BE *ALMOST* IMPOSSIBLE TO BELIEVE, KNOWING WHAT YOU KNOW...

RELAX.

...BUT IT WASN'T *ALWAYS* BAD.

OKAY.

OKAY.

MILLIONS OF KIDS NOT HALF AS *SMART* AS YOU DO THIS EVERY DAY.

READY?

Nice Things

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DAN BUCKLEY
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Douglaston, Queens.

OVER A DECADE AGO.

YES!

HE WASN'T ALWAYS BAD.

NOT *ALWAYS.*

SOMETIMES, HE WAS EVEN A *REAL DAD.*

LOOK! *LOOK!*

THE KIND WHO WOULD TAKE AN AFTERNOON OFF TO TEACH HIS SON HOW TO RIDE A TWO-WHEELER.

YES, NORMAN OSBORN... THE MOST *POWERFUL MAN ON THE PLANET*...TAUGHT ME HOW TO RIDE A BIKE...FUNNY, RIGHT?

EVEN FUNNIER IS THAT IT'S STILL ONE OF MY PROUDEST MOMENTS. SWEAR TO GOD.

THAT MEMORY OF *PRIDE* IN MY FATHER'S EYES IS LIKE A PRECIOUS STONE I CAN PULL OUT AND ADMIRE WHENEVER I WANT.

THE *PROGRAM* HAS TAUGHT ME HOW TO DO THAT...

UNFORTUNATELY, SOMETIMES I CAN'T "*STOP THE TAPE*" THERE...AND I HAVE TO REMEMBER THE REST TOO.

HEY, HARRY! COOL BIKE! C'MERE!

LOOKS BRAND NEW! IT YOUR BIRTHDAY?

NO, DAD WANTED ME TO LEARN HOW TO RIDE, SO WE PICKED IT.

HE'S LETTING ME RIDE AROUND THE BLOCK NOW!

THAT'S RAD. MY BIKE'S A PIECE OF CRAP. YOU'RE LUCKY...

HEY, CAN I SIT ON IT? SEE HOW IT FEELS?

UM...I GUESS...

...WHAT'S YOUR NAME AGAIN?

WOW, IT'S REALLY COMFORTABLE. I WANNA SEE HOW IT ROLLS, OKAY?

...OKAY.

I ACTUALLY WAVED GOODBYE, LIKE WE WERE JUST FINISHED HANGING OUT. PALS.

BUT I COULDN'T STOP HIM. I COULDN'T MOVE. SPEAK. ANYTHING.

THE SECOND HE TOUCHED THE BIKE I KNEW HE WAS GOING TO STEAL IT...

IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I REMEMBER FEELING *ASHAMED.*

CRIPPLING, DEBILITATING *SHAME.*

I WALKED STRAIGHT HOME, WILLING MYSELF NOT TO CRY SO THAT I COULD MAKE IT PAST MY FATHER.

HEY, HARRY–?

I'M GONNA LAY DOWN. MY STOMACH HURTS.

I HADN'T LEARNED HOW TO LIE WITH A STRAIGHT FACE YET.

HARRY? WHAT HAPPENED?

WHERE'S YOUR BIKE?

DAD, I...

HE TOOK IT.

MEET ME IN THE CAR. WE'LL FIX THIS.

I USED TO BE TERRIFIED OF CONFLICT, SO THE RIDE WAS AGONIZING...BUT AT THE SAME TIME, I WAS WITH MY DAD, WHO WASN'T YELLING, WAS BEING HELPFUL...

...PROTECTING ME.

SO WHEN I SAW HIM... ON *MY BIKE*, I WASN'T SICK WITH GUILT, I WAS EXCITED.

I KNEW MY DAD COULD *YELL*, AND I COULDN'T WAIT TO HEAR HIM GO TO TOWN ON THAT JERK...

I GOT MY WISH...

GO! GO!

GET OFF!

I'M SORRY!

KRNNNNCH!

IT WAS LIKE BEING IN A NIGHTMARE. WHERE NOTHING MAKES SENSE AND YOU CAN'T MOVE. CAN'T STOP WATCHING...

KRNNNNCH!

EXCEPT THAT'S A LIE. IT *DID* MAKE SENSE TO ME. BECAUSE HE WAS MY FATHER, AND EVEN WHEN HE WAS GOOD... HE WAS STILL *NORMAN.*

MAYBE NEXT TIME YOU'LL REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR NICE THINGS IF YOU DON'T TAKE CARE OF THEM.

HOW ABOUT SOME ICE CREAM?

...OKAY.

BLAMING PEOPLE IN MY PAST FOR MY CURRENT CONDITION ISN'T ALLOWED. I KNOW THAT...

BUT IT DOESN'T MEAN WE CAN'T LOOK BACK AND USE THE PAST AS A TOOL IN RECOVERY.

RECENTLY... I LOST SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT TO ME...

SOMEONE.

AND IT HAS ME THINKING ABOUT ALL OF THE *NICE THINGS* IN MY LIFE THAT I'VE RUINED...

OR THAT I *LET* BE RUINED BECAUSE OF *FEAR. SHAME...*

...MY *FATHER.*

BUT MY *PROGRAM* OF *RECOVERY* TELLS ME THAT I DON'T HAVE TO BE THAT GUY ANYMORE.

THAT I HAVE A CHOICE, FIRST AND FOREMOST, *NOT TO PICK UP A DRINK OR A DRUG* OVER IT...

...AND I HAVE A *PLAN* BY WHICH TO MOVE ON WITH MY LIFE. WHICH BRINGS US TO A NICE WAY TO CLOSE...

GOD, GRANT ME THE SERERNITY TO ACCEPT THE THINGS I CANNOT CHANGE...

...THE *COURAGE* TO CHANGE THE THINGS I CAN...

AND THE *WISDOM* TO TELL THE DIFFERENCE.

KEEP COMING BACK, PEOPLE.

HARRY...

?

LILY--?

DON'T LOOK AT ME--! DON'T...

HARRY, THIS... THIS IS ONE OF THOSE THINGS YOU *CAN'T* CHANGE. I'VE MOVED ON.

THEN WHY ARE YOU HERE, LILY?

HE'S AN AMAZING MAN, LILY...I KNOW,AND HE TAKES VERY SPECIAL CARE OF HIS "*NICE THINGS*"...UNTIL HE ***DOESN'T.***

I HOPE YOU SEE HIM FOR WHAT HE IS ***BEFORE*** THAT HAPPENS...

BECAUSE WHEN NORMAN OSBORN IS THROUGH WITH YOU, ***NO ONE*** GETS TO HAVE YOU.

The End.

LOOSE ENDS

Months ago, a new Kraven the Hunter – seemingly the late Kraven's 12-year-old daughter – stalked Spider-Man, tracing him to his home, apartment of his alter ego, Peter Parker, and Parker's roommate, police officer Vin Gonzales.

The young Ana Kraven deduced Gonzales, not Parker, as Spider-Man's secret identity, systematically destroying his life, wiping out his life savings and getting him suspended from the police force. She then captured Vin and took him to the villainous Vermin's lair in the New York City sewers. There, she pumped Gonzales up with Mutant Growth Hormone and hunted him for sport.

Meanwhile, Peter Parker, borrowing the costume of fellow crime fighter Daredevil to conceal his identity, traced Kraven and Gonzales, rescuing him from certain death and leaving the young Kraven to fight Vermin, who had returned to his home. The young Kraven returned to her mysterious mother with Vermin, now tamed as a prize. Since then she has remained in hiding…

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Columbia University Medical Center.

DON'T DEFEND HIM, PETE. YOU MIGHT EARN SOME *DECENT MONEY* TAKING HIS PICTURES, BUT HE'S *SCUM.*

PETE, *LOOK* AT ME. I'M IN THE HOSPITAL FOR A WEEK DRESSED IN AN OLD LADY GOWN, THANKS TO THAT GUY.

SHOWED UP AT ONE IN THE MORNING TO TELL ME THAT CRAP STORY ABOUT *TAGGING* ME WITH HIS *COSTUME!*

VIN, DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING A LITTLE OVERDRAMATIC?

THAT'S NOT *ENTIRELY* TRUE.

WHAT?!

I TOLD YOU HE WAS *HERE,* RIGHT?

I'M SURE HE FEELS REALLY BAD ABOUT THAT NOW...

PARKER, YOU CAN'T SWING AROUND, BREAKING THE LAW OVER AND OVER, *NEVER* SHOWING YOUR *FACE--*

--AND EXPECT GUYS LIKE ME WHO *DON'T* WEAR MASKS OR USE INNOCENT FOLKS AS *HUMAN SHIELDS* TO JUST SAY "THANK YOU."

MAN UP A LITTLE BIT, YOU KNOW?

CRAZY THING, THOUGH--I USED TO THINK *I* HATED SPIDER-MAN, UNTIL I MET THAT *LITTLE WITCH* WHO PUT ME IN HIS SUIT AND PUMPED ME FULL OF THOSE DRUGS.

I'VE *NEVER* SEEN HATE LIKE THAT BEFORE.

LUCKY YOU.

VIN, THAT WOMAN--THAT *GIRL--*

DID SHE *SAY* ANYTHING-- ABOUT *WHY* SHE WAS HUNTING SPIDER-MAN?

NAH. ONLY THAT SHE'D BEEN HUNTING HIM FOR *WEEKS.* THAT SHE WAS TARGETING ALL OF HIS *FRIENDS.*

AND THAT SHE'D BEEN IN THOSE *TUNNELS* FOR A REAL LONG TIME.

THE TUNNELS. RIGHT.

HEY, PETE-- YOU BE CAREFUL BACK IN THE *APARTMENT,* OKAY?

BOTH THOSE WHACK JOBS KNOW WHERE WE *LIVE* NOW.

I HATE LIVING UP HERE.

TRAPPED UP IN THE SKY.

BUT MOTHER TOLD ME THAT I HAVE TO STAY UP HERE FROM NOW ON.

IT'S LIKE SHE'S *PUNISHING* ME FOR HONORING THE FAMILY LEGACY. FOR BEING MY *FATHER'S* DAUGHTER.

FOR BEING A *KRAVEN.*

MOTHER CALLS THIS PLACE OUR "*AERIE.*" SHE SAYS WE BELONG HERE, ABOVE THEM ALL.

SHE MAKES IT SOUND SO *SPECIAL.*

I THINK IT'S JUST A BIG GLASS *CAGE.*

BUT I COULD BREAK RIGHT THROUGH THIS GLASS IF I WANTED.

I'M THAT *STRONG.*

CLIMB RIGHT DOWN THE WALLS OF THIS TOWER AND INTO THE *HERDS.* THEN TAKE THEM OUT ONE BY ONE.

MOTHER'S RIGHT. THEY MAKE IT SO EASY TO *HATE* THEM.

SO STUPID AND NEEDY. SO *MUNDANE.* THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE WORLD TRULY IS.

HOW IT *STALKS* THEM.

HOW READY IT IS TO TEAR THEM APART....

...AND DEVOUR THEM.

IT LEARNS THEIR *SCENT,* HUNTS THEM, TIRES THEM--

IT SEEKS OUT THE WEAK--

--STRIKES AT THEM WITHOUT MERCY.

THAT'S WHAT I WOULD BE DOING.

IF I WASN'T TRAPPED UP HERE IN THIS STUPID CAGE.

sssall wrong...

ssaall wrong...

the devil was the spider...the devil was the spider...

WHAT ARE YOU MOANING ABOUT, YOU TOAD?

the devil was the spider....

I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE KILLED YOU DOWN THERE, VERMIN.

WHAMM

devilspider... devilspider..

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!

please don't hurt ssself.

he made vermmmin bring him under...to the tunnels...but it wasn't the devil. it was the spider. *the spider in disguise.*

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, DAREDEVIL WASN'T *DAREDEVIL?* WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

he made the webssss. he had the sssstrength. he had the *sssssscent.*

"the devil wasss sssssspider in dissssguise!"

THEN...THE POLICE OFFICER... HE WASN'T...

please don't hurt me. so many hurt me.

THIS MEANS-- I HAD HIM AND I DIDN'T KILL HIM.

I DIDN'T *KNOW...*

THE *WARREN.* I LEFT *EVERYTHING* IN THE WARREN. IF HE RETURNS AND FINDS IT...

NO. I CAN'T LET THAT HAPPEN. I *CAN'T.*

VIN AND I LEFT OUR YOUNG "*FRIEND*" FIGHTING VERMIN IN THOSE TUNNELS.

FOR *ALL* OUR SAKES, I NEED TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HER. WHICH MEANS I'M GONNA HAVE TO START...

...AT THE SEAPORT.

SCUM? HE CALLED ME "*SCUM*"?

SCREW YOU, VIN. *DOCTOR OCTOPUS* IS SCUM. *MAGNETO* IS SCUM. I'M TRYIN' TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE, JUST LIKE YOU!

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M RUNNING A PONZI SCHEME OR BLOWING UP PLANETS OR ANYTHING... I'M THE SALT O' THE EARTH!

HMPH.

PIER

I NEVER FIGURED I'D BE DRAGGED BACK HERE ONE TIME, LET ALONE *THREE.*

NNFFF!

UGGH. I THOUGHT VERMIN HAD SUPER-SENSES. HOW DID HIS NOSE NOT *FALL OFF* SMELLIN' THIS EVERY DAY?

I FEEL LIKE WHASSISFACE FROM "*DIRTY JOBS.*"

AT LEAST HE GETS PAID FOR TRAIPSING AROUND IN DIRTY POOP WATER... I JUST GET A DRY CLEANING BILL.

WIKIPEDIA SAYS THERE ARE *SIX THOUSAND MILES* OF SEWER PIPES AND DRAINS UNDER THE CITY.

I THINK THEY MISSED NUMBER SIX THOUSAND AND *ONE*.

I THINK I MIGHT HAVE TO MAKE SOME WIKI *EDITS* WHEN I GET HOME...

...IF I'M NOT STILL BLOCKED FOR WHAT I DID TO TORCH'S ENTRY.

HOW THE HECK DID YOU *FIND* THIS PLACE, LITTLE GIRL?

LET'S SEE, HER LAIR WAS OVER *HERE*--

--JUST PAST THE DELIGHTFUL LITTLE RIG SHE *TORTURED* VIN ON WHILE INJECTING HIM WITH MUTANT STEROIDS.

WE'RE RAISING 'EM RIGHT, WE ARE.

VOILÁ.

THAT PAPER... THAT'S THE FIRST TIME I FOUGHT THE SINISTER SIX.

GOD, THAT WAS OVER *TEN YEARS AGO*...AND SHE'S HOW OLD?

DAILY

SINI

SIX KI

IT ALMOST FITS...AND KRAVEN *DID* HAVE OTHER KIDS...

WHAT ELSE DOES SHE HAVE DOWN HERE?

THIS IS FROM THAT BATTLE WITH *FRACTURE* LAST MONTH.

THERE'S PICTURES OF THE APARTMENT, THE COMIC BOOK STORE SHE ATTACKED ME IN...

MY GOD.

VIN WAS RIGHT. SHE'S BEEN WATCHING ME FOR *WEEKS.*

WAIT A MINUTE.

SOMETHING'S *WRONG.* SHE HAD AN *ARSENAL* DOWN HERE. CRATES OF WEAPONS. CHAINS. WHERE'D IT ALL GO?

BZP

WHAT IS THAT--?

RED WIRE, BLUE WIRE, RED WIRE, BLUE WIRE. OH, *NO.*

BZP

BZP

NO! NO! NO!

OKAY, TIME TO--

--GO.

UH...HI.

YOU!

WAIT!

I'M NOT HERE TO FIGHT YOU!

LIAR!

NO, IT'S TRUE! I JUST HAD TO KNOW WHO YOU ARE. I HAD TO KNOW--

ARE YOU *KRAVEN'S DAUGHTER?!*

AH, NO--
HA! HA! HA! HA!
NFF!
BRAKOOM
BAWOOM
KA-BROOM
WHERE'D SHE GO?!
WHERE'D SHE--
WHO CARES?! JUST CRAWL, WALL-CRAWLER-- CRAWL!

RUMMMBLEKR-BK'K

BLA-BROOOM

DID SHE JUST *DO* THAT?!

SHE JUST KILLED HERSELF--SHE *KILLED* HERSELF TRYING TO KILL *ME*--!

WHAT IS *WRONG* WITH THESE PEOPLE --?!

Twenty Minutes Later...

THE FIREMEN AND THE CITY WORKERS WILL SCOUR WHAT'S LEFT OF THE TUNNELS...BUT THEY WON'T FIND ANYTHING. I'VE SEEN TO THAT.

MOTHER CAN PROCEED ACCORDING TO HER PLAN.

AND YOU--YOU'LL *SKULK* AWAY INTO THE NIGHT, LIKE YOU ALWAYS DO--

--CHECK ONCE OR TWICE WITH YOUR CONTACTS FOR DISCOVERIES THEY'LL NEVER MAKE--

--AND THEN *MOVE ON,* SECURE IN THE BELIEF THAT I *SACRIFICED* MYSELF IN A FIT OF CHILDISH RAGE.

YOU'RE SO *LIMITED.* JUST LIKE THE REST OF THEM.

BUT YOU'VE GIVEN ME SOMETHING QUITE *VALUABLE* BY COMING HERE, SPIDER-MAN. I *KNOW* WHO YOU ARE NOW.

I HAVE YOUR SCENT NOW. I CAN FIND YOU.

AND I SWEAR ON MY FATHER'S GRAVE, THAT WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT--

--I'LL *KILL* YOU FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO MY FAMILY.

Sinister 666. Soon.

RETURN OF THE SPOT!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #589

Brighton Beach, Brooklyn.

‹WHAT THE HELL IS *THIS?*›

TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN. -COMRADE STEVE

‹YOU A PIRATE?›

‹WHAT?›

‹IN THAT KIDS' BOOK--*TREASURE ISLAND*--THE PIRATES MARK GUYS THEY'RE GONNA WHACK WITH THE *BLACK SPOT* TO SCARE THE *DAYLIGHTS* OUT OF THEM FIRST.›

СПОРТИВНЫЕ ТАЛАНТЫ

‹AND NOBODY SAW WHO DROPPED IT *OFF?*›

‹THE ENVELOPE WITH YOUR *NAME* ON IT WAS LYING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROOM WHEN I OPENED *UP*, MR. IVANKOV--I *SWEAR!*›

‹DON'T *WORRY* ABOUT IT, DMITRI. EITHER SOMEONE-- PERHAPS *FYODOR*-- IS PLAYING A *PRANK* ON YOU...›

‹...OR SOMEONE *IS* ACTUALLY TRYING TO KILL YOU.›

ФЭРВЕРТС

ЧЕЛОВЕК ГОДА-2009

‹AFTER ALL THE BAD PRESS FROM OUR DRIVE-BY IN STATEN ISLAND LAST WEEK, PERHAPS OUR ENEMIES SENSE *WEAKNESS.*›

‹THEN THEY'RE *WRONG.*›

‹THE SALVADORANS, THE BROTHERS *ZASLON*, MR. NEGATIVE'S MASK-WEARING *FRUITS...*›

‹...THEY NEED TO TAKE A *NUMBER* TO GET AT *DMITRI IVANKOV.*›

‹NOT A *SPOT.*›

Marlboro

Two Weeks Later.

STUPID TRAINS.

MY ROOMMATE'S NOW IN *JAIL*...I'M STILL RECOVERING FROM A COUPLE OF BULLET WOUNDS...

...MY BEST FRIEND'S GIRL TURNS OUT TO BE A CROSS-DRESSING GREEN GOBLIN-WANNABE CALLED *MENACE*...

...WHICH IS JUST WRONG ON *SO* MANY LEVELS IT MAKES MY *BRAIN HURT*...

...I DON'T NEED THE *M.T.A.* TURNING AGAINST ME TOO!

"WE APOLOGIZE FOR THE DELAY, BUT THERE IS A TRAIN IN THE TUNNEL DIRECTLY IN *FRONT* OF US."

OF COURSE THERE IS!

IT'S A @#$!& *SUBWAY*, ISN'T IT?!

AND I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS *ALL WEEK* TO TAKE MY MIND OFF THE USUAL INSANITY THAT IS MY *LIFE.*

FOOD, EMERGENCY AID, SHELTER AND TRAINING

F.E.A.S.T. PROJECT
FOOD, EMERGENCY AID, SHELTER AND TRAINING

AUNT MAY'S TEMPORARY *REASSIGNMENT* TO CONEY ISLAND IS A GREAT EXCUSE FOR US TO GRAB A KNISH AND A FOOT-LONG ALONG THE BOARDWALK--

HEY!

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

PETER! YOU'RE *JUST* IN TIME!

US MAIL

SONY

YOU CAN HELP ME ESCORT MR. IVANKOV AND HIS *FANCY-PANTS GANGSTERS* FROM THE BUILDING!

THAT WON'T BE *NECESSARY*, MRS. PARKER. IF YOU DON'T WANT MY *HELP*, I CAN FIND MY *OWN* WAY OUT.

THIS GUY *BOTHERING* YOU, AUNT MAY?

HE WANTS TO *USE* F.E.A.S.T. TO SHOW WHAT A HUMANITARIAN HE IS--

SONY

SONY

--GIVE OUT FREE PLASMA SCREENS TO THE POOR FOR CHRISTMAS AND TURKEYS AT THANKSGIVING--

MAYBE *THEN* PEOPLE WILL FORGET HOW HE BRINGS GIRLS ILLEGALLY TO THE COUNTRY TO *SELL* THEMSELVES--

HOW HE TERRORIZES THE RUSSIAN MERCHANTS WITH HIS *PROTECTION* RACKET!

BUT I WON'T *LET* THEM FORGET!

‹NO LUCK, SIR?›

‹TOUGH OLD LADY. REMINDS ME OF MY GRANDMOTHER.›

‹DURING THE SIEGE OF STALINGRAD, SHE LOADED AN ANTI-TANK GUN WITH HER *BLINTZES* AND HELD OFF FOUR *PANZER* DIVISIONS.›

COPS NO HELP, HUH?

NO ONE CAN WORK UP THE COURAGE TO *TALK* TO THEM!

AND *OUTSIDERS* LIKE ME DON'T HAVE ANYTHING APPROACHING *PROOF*...

KEEP THE *FAITH*, AUNT MAY.

PROOF IS A FUNNY THING.

IT HAS A TENDENCY TO TURN UP WHEN WE LEAST *EXPECT* IT...

Red Hook, Brooklyn.

〈EXPLAIN TO ME AGAIN WHY I AM GOING *PERSONALLY* TO THIS MEET, FYODOR?〉

〈BECAUSE THE PRIG WON'T TALK TO ANYONE OF "*LESSER RANK.*"〉

〈I SERVED WITH GENERAL KOSCHEI IN *GROZNY*, BOSS--HE'S A STICKLER FOR *CHAIN OF COMMAND.*〉

〈THEY *WILL* BE, *YOU'LL* SEE!〉

...sigh...

〈THE GOODS BETTER BE *WORTH* MY EXPOSURE--〉

〈YOU PICKED UP YOUR TASTE FOR *BARRACKS PRANKS* IN THE RED ARMY, FYODOR?〉

〈BE CAREFUL, NOW--THERE IS A FINE LINE BETWEEN A *JOKE* AND AN *INSULT!*〉

〈WHAT--WHAT ARE YOU *TALKING ABOUT*, DMITRI?〉

...

〈NOTHING.〉

〈GENERAL!〉

〈REQUESTING PERMISSION TO COME ABOARD!〉

‹PERMISSION GRANTED.›

‹GREETINGS, DMITRI SADKOVICH.›

‹WE ARE BOTH BUSY MEN, SO I WILL GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT.›

‹I COMMAND THE GARRISON ON THE *CHECHEN* BORDER. STILL A HOTBED OF GUERILLA WARFARE...*SUICIDE ATTACKS* AND SUCH.›

‹SO THE KREMLIN MAKES SURE *I* RECEIVE THE NEW TOYS *FIRST*.›

‹FOR THE RIGHT *PRICE*, I CAN MAKE SURE A NUMBER OF THEM GO *MISSING*. THESE PROVINCIAL TROOPS... SO *UNRELIABLE*, YES?›

‹FOCUSED X-RAYS LET THIS "*LOBSTER GUN*" SEE THROUGH NEARLY A FOOT OF WOOD, CONCRETE... EVEN *STEEL*.›

‹AND A HIGH-POWERED *EXPLOSIVE ROUND* WILL LET YOU *HIT* ANYTHING YOU *TARGET*.›

‹SEE FOR YOURSELF.›

BWHOOM

‹FOR A CLEANER SORT OF "*HIT*," YES? I HEAR YOU *NEED* THAT.›

‹THAT BOTCHED *DRIVE-BY* IN STATEN ISLAND BY YOUR PEOPLE--A YOUNG BOY RENDERED *COMATOSE*...? Tsk, tsk. THAT MADE THE PAPERS EVEN IN *RUSSIA*--›

‹I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.›

‹HOW MUCH FOR *SIX*?›

"*BORIS!* BIG GUN IS *PERFECT* FOR HUNTING *MOOSE AND SQUIRREL!*"

KLIK

"YES, NATASHA! SOON MOOSE WILL BE STUFFED AND MOUNTED OVER FIREPLACE!"

WAIT.

SHOULD I DO THAT?

IS THAT RACIST?

KLIK

BETWEEN THESE PIX AND ME DELIVERING DMITRI WEB-WRAPPED TO THE LOCAL COP SHOP, AUNT MAY'S GANGSTER PROBLEM SHOULD BE SOLVED.

KLIK

GEEZ, THIS TUB IS LOUSY WITH GOONS, THOUGH. GONNA HAVE TO CHOOSE JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT TO LOWER THE BOO--

WHA...?

WHAT WAS...?

SYNC

WHOA!

WHOA!

STUPID *SPIDER-SENSE* DIDN'T WARN ME OF NOTHIN'!

I GOTTA GET DOWN THERE!

‹AH.›

‹WE ARE QUITE *FORTUNATE*, GENTLEMEN.›

‹AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A *LIVE DEMONSTRATION* HAS *PRESENTED* ITSELF.›

AAAAAAH!!

YAAAAAAH!!

<FYODOR! COME BACK HERE, YOU COWARD!>

ЯЖДР

GAAAAHHHH!

<VASILY! IGNATI!>

<GET ME OUT... OF...>

<...HERE!>

<NO-- NO!!>

NICE *FRIENDS* YOU GOT THERE.

IS THAT WHO I *THINK* IT IS?

ZWOT

CHOK

SPOT?

WAIT! WHY ARE YOU--

YOU MUST RESCUE ME! I'LL PAY *WHATEVER* YOU WANT-- *ANYTHING!*

YEAH? OKAY, SCARFACE. I'LL GET YOU OUT IN ONE PIECE...

...*IF* YOU TESTIFY AGAINST YOUR GANGLAND CRONIES!

OH, NO. I DON'T THINK SO.

THEN YOU CAN TAKE YOUR *CHANCES*--

YOU? LEAVE ME DOWN HERE TO *DIE?*

PLEASE. YOU DON'T HAVE THE *GUTS.*

ALL RIGHT.

WOK

YOU GOT ME THERE.

UNTIL LAST WEEK, THE NYPD THOUGHT I WAS A SERIAL KILLER...

THE *GOVERNMENT*...SECRETLY RUN BY MY *WORST ENEMY*...HAS BASICALLY BRANDED ME A TERRORIST...

THE *MEDIA* SAYS I'M TURNING THE YOUTH OF AMERICA INTO *SERIAL-KILLING TERRORISTS*...

...YET *THIS* GUY CAN TELL JUST BY *LOOKING* AT ME I'M REALLY A *GOOD GUY!* WHERE'S THE JUSTICE IN *THAT?*

IF ONLY I WERE MORE *INTIMIDATING*...I SHOULD PRACTICE TALKING LIKE *CHRISTIAN BALE.*

I AM THE SPIDER.

I OWN THE NIGHT.

YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE HAS COME TO LIFE, PUNK, AND YOU'RE LOOKING RIGHT AT--

KOF!

HACK!

HOW CAN HE KEEP THAT *UP* FOR AN ENTIRE *MOVIE*...?

ZWOK

AAAGH!

RIIIIGHT--BECAUSE HE STARTS HIS ATTACKS IN ANOTHER DIMENSION, THE SPOT IS BASICALLY INVISIBLE TO MY SPIDER-SENSE!

SORRY, SPOTTY, THAT'S MY RUSSIAN MOB BOSS--

--AND I DON'T FEEL LIKE SHARING!

THWIP

QUICK, PARKER--THINK! WHAT ELSE DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIM?

HE STARTED OUT IN THE R&D WING OF KINGPIN'S SUPERHUMAN ENFORCER DEPARTMENT.

HE BOTCHED AN EXPERIMENT TRYING TO REPLICATE THE TELEPORTATION POWERS OF CLOAK OF "& DAGGER" FAME--

AAAH!

--AND TURNED HIMSELF INTO THE *HUMAN DALMATIAN!*

POW

WOK

CHOK

THWOK

NOT SO FAST!

WHERE YOU GO, I--

HE MADE A FAILED PLAY FOR SECURING THE JOB OF TUBBY'S PERSONAL HIT MAN *HIMSELF*...AND HAS BEEN TRYING TO CLAW HIS WAY OFF THE *D-LIST* EVER *SINCE.*

OOP.

I'M GONNA BE SICK.

BUT, DESPITE HIS ORIGINAL *ASPIRATIONS...*

...HE'S NEVER BEEN A *KILLER* BEFORE.

IF THAT'S *CHANGED,* I'D BETTER TAKE HIM OUT PRONTO WITH MY BEST RIGHT--

WHAM

OW! SON-OF-AN-OSBORN!

MY DOSE!

HE'S STEPPED UP HIS GAME.

OR BEEN PUSHED OVER THE EDGE.

OR BOTH.

WONK

EITHER WAY: BAD NEWS FOR MY SIDE.

SPOT'S POWERS COULD MAKE HIM AN UNSTOPPABLE ASSASSIN.

AND IT LOOKS LIKE IVANKOV IS HIS LATEST TARGET.

HAH! YOU MAY BE HOT STUFF WITH YOUR 'PORT-HOLES, SPOTTY...

...BUT WHEN IT COMES TO "YE OLDE LAWS OF PHYSICS," I'M STILL FASTER THAN YOU!

!

ALMOST THERE!

KRRC

FOR ALL THE TROUBLE I'VE GONE THROUGH FOR YOU, IVANKOV, YOU BETTER SING LIKE...LIKE...

...WELL, LIKE SOMEBODY WHO SINGS A LOT, THAT'S WHO...

WHOA!

OKAY, I'M REALLY STARTING TO GET *TIRED* OF THIS!

THWIP

UHHNNH...?

YAAAHH!!

YAAAAAAAHH!

THWAP

YOU'RE *TENACIOUS*, I'LL GIVE YOU *THAT* MUCH, SPOTTY.

YDDDHH!!

YOU CAN STOP SCREAMING NOW, DMITRI. I'VE SAVED YOU.

YDDDHH!!

‹I SAW... THE SPACE NEEDLE.›

‹THAT WAS *SEATTLE*. HE THREW ME TO *SEATTLE*.›

‹HOW... CAN A *MAN*... *DO* THAT?›

LOOK, SPOT. I DON'T CARE *HOW MUCH* YOU'RE BEING PAID TO DO THIS...

OR *WHAT* THIS DIRTBAG HAS DONE...

...BUT I BECAME SPIDER-MAN FOR *ONE* REASON, AND *ONE* REASON ONLY...

RRRIP

...AND THAT WAS TO NOT LET PEOPLE *DIE*.

SO LISTEN CLOSELY, ELLIPSIS-FACE...

I WILL NOT LET YOU KILL THIS MAN.

I'LL STAKE MY LIFE ON IT.

YOU *HEAR* ME, MARCEL MARCEAU? HUH?

Ditko INC

CAN YOU GIVE ME SOME *SIGN* I'M NOT JUST WASTING MY *BREATH*--

OKAY. WOW.

THAT'S INCREDIBLY DISGUSTING. STOP.

I LITERALLY DON'T KNOW WHERE YOUR HAND'S BEEN...

...AND I AM SO *NOT* GOING TO TOUCH ANYTHING THAT'S ACTUALLY BEEN *INSIDE* YOUR, UH...

YOU WANT ME TO READ...

OH, ALL RIGHT.

MY CONFESSION
by THE SPOT

after double-crossing my last employer, M.O.D.O.K., the Mandarin used his black light ring to envelop me in my own spots...

...entrapping me in my own anti-dimension.

IN THE IMMORTAL SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP: M.O.D.O.K.'S 11 #3 - STEVE "FRED ACTUALLY WRITES THESE EDITOR'S NOTES SO I HAVE TO SAY THIS STUFF" WACKER

Because I hadn't gone in there of my own volition, I had no way of knowing which way was the route out.

Occasionally, I was able to project my image back into this world—

I fear I went rather mad.

—like when I tried to contact my old cronies at the Bar with No Name. But they never could see or hear me.

Moreso than I was before, I mean.

So what I decided to do, eventually, was concentrate on the one good thing I had in my life before I had my accident.

AMAZING #552. SORT OF. -STEVE "I JUST LIKE ASTERISKS" WACKER

I homed in on that... and, somehow, even though it felt like it took a thousand lifetimes...

...I finally made it home, only to find my beacon, my light...

...had been cut down at the wrong place, at the wrong time by a murderous brute without a second thought.

I resolved then to spend every waking moment on the perfect method of vengeance.

UM...

...DON'T TAKE THIS WRONG WAY...

...BUT DO YOU ACTUALLY EXPECT ME TO BE ABLE TO *READ* THIS?

SPOT?

"WYATT OHNN..."

OHNN? T-THAT'S THE CHILD WHO GOT ACCIDENTLY SHOT IN THE DRIVE-BY IN STATEN--

WYATT OHNN
520 New Dorp
Staten Island

WHAT?

...

NOTHING...

B-BUT--YOU LET HIM *GET AWAY*-- YOU GOTTA CATCH HIM-- HE COULD STILL BE *AFTER* ME--

I *WILL* GET HIM. *EVENTUALLY.*

SHUT UP.

THAT'S NOT *GOOD* ENOUGH! YOU MUST--

GASP!

GASP!

〈FYODOR! WHERE HAVE YOU--〉

AAAAIIEEE!

I AM THE SPIDER.

I OWN THE NIGHT.

I'M YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE COME TO LIFE, PUNK--

--AND YOU'LL ONLY WAKE UP IF YOU AGREE TO TESTIFY AGAINST YOUR GANGLAND BUDDIES--

ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT! I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU SAY!

JUST DON'T HURT ME! PLEASE!

WOW. I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT ACTUALLY *WORKS.*

KOF

KOF

CRIMINALS ARE *INDEED* A SUPERSTITIOUS, COWARDLY LOT...

HOPE I DON'T GET SUED FOR THAT--

New Dorp, Staten Island.

18

18 - 28

NOK NOK

OH!

19

22

HOW DID MY EX-HUSB--

--YOUR *FATHER* USED TO READ THIS TO YOU EVERY NIGHT, WYATT!

THIS IS THE COPY HE GAVE YOU!

WHERE DID THIS COME FROM? WE HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE...

...SINCE HIS *ACCIDENT*...

TREASURE ISLAND

Illustrated by Milo W

Bellevue Hospital, Manhattan.

FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIC UNIT.

<IS HE... IS HE COMING FOR ME *NOW?*>

<NO? WHAT ABOUT...>

<...NOW!>

<NO? THOUGHT I FELT A...>

<BUT NOT YET, NOT...>

<HE CAN COME ANYTIME, ANYWHERE, WHENEVER HE WANTS...>

<HE'S JUST LIKE A...HEE, HEE...>

<JUST LIKE A *PIRATE*...>

<THEY SEND YOU THE *BLACK SPOT* TO LET YOU KNOW THEY'RE COMING FOR YOU...>

<BUT YOU DON'T KNOW *WHEN*, NO, NO...>

<THEY CAN COME ANYTIME...>

<ANY TIME AT ALL...>

MARKED

FRED VAN LENTE	PAULO SIQUEIRA	AMILTON SANTOS	JEROMY COX	VC'S CORY PETIT	TOM BRENNAN	STEPHEN WACKER	TOM BREVOORT	JOE QUESADA	DAN BUCKLEY	ALAN FINE
WRITER	PENCILS	INKS	COLORS	LETTERS	ASST. EDITOR	MILGROM-Y	EXECUTIVE EDITOR	EDITOR IN CHIEF	PUBLISHER	EXEC. PRODUCER

BOB GALE, MARC GUGGENHEIM, JOE KELLY, DAN SLOTT & MARK WAID-WEB-HEADS

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #590

A Couple Years Ago...

ALMOST THERE.

JOHNNY, COULD YOU MOVE A LITTLE TO THE RIGHT?

TAKE IT ALREADY!

QUERY: PLACE PHOTO IN WHICH FILE?

FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE. SAY "UNSTABLE MOLECULES."

FWASH

UNSTABLE MOLECULES.

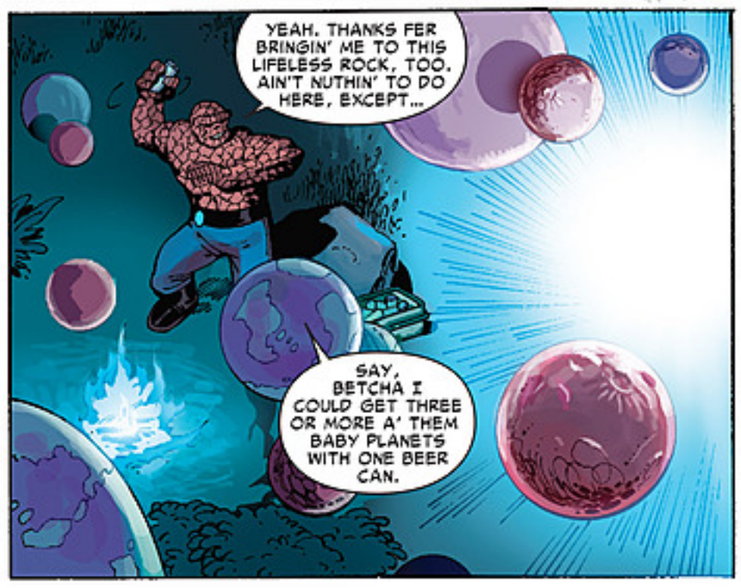
SPIDER-MAN & THE FANTASTIC FOUR IN FACE FRONT

Our Trip To The Macroverse

PART ONE: TOGETHER AGAIN... FOR THE FIRST TIME

DAN SLOTT WRITER	BARRY KITSON PENCILS	MARK FARMER INKS	DEAN WHITE COLORS	VC'S JOE CARAMAGNA LETTERS	TOM BRENNAN BEWITCHED	STEPHEN WACKER BOTHERED	TOM BREVOORT BEWILDERED	JOE QUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF	DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER	ALAN FINE EXEC. PRODUCER

GALE, SLOTT, GUGGENHEIM, WAID & KELLY - WEBHEADS



THAT SOUNDED LIKE A WOMAN'S SCREAM. FROM JUST OVER THAT RIDGE. SUE?

I KNOW, REED. WE HAVEN'T MADE CONTACT YET. UATU PROTOCOLS ARE IN EFFECT.

SUE? WHY ARE YOU TURNING INVISIBLE? WHAT'S GOING ON? "UATU PROTOCOLS"?

THE FIRST RULE OF COSMIC EXPLORATION, SPIDER-MAN. *WATCH* BUT DON'T INTERFERE.

I *WANTED* TO CALL IT THE PRIME DIRECTIVE, BUT I GOT VOTED DOWN.

AWW. LIKE STAR TREK.

EXACTLY.

WE CAN TAKE PEOPLE CALLING THE F.F. "*OLD SCHOOL*," BUT "*TREKKIES*"...?

ENOUGH JAWIN'! WELL, SUZIE, WHATTYA SEE?

"BEN, IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D SAY I WAS LOOKING AT A FRAZETTA PAINTING..."

BACK, DREGGS! I AM NOT AFRAID OF YOUR NUMBERS. FOR I SWEAR, BY THE GODS BELOW...

...I WILL DISPATCH EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU BEFORE YOU TOUCH J'TAL AGAIN!

DEFY US, KORT, AND YOU DEFY TWO KINGDOMS!

"...THERE ARE BEAST MEN, GIANT LIZARDS, AND EVEN AN HONEST-TO-GOSH DAMSEL IN DISTRESS."

WELL? WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?

PETER, IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE. MUCH LIKE THE PHYSICAL LAWS OF THIS DIMENSION...

...WE HAVE NO UNDERSTANDING OF THE RULES AND CUSTOMS HERE.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

LOOK, I KNOW I'M JUST A GUY FROM QUEENS. AND MAYBE THIS AIN'T MY CORNER OF THE COSMOS...

...BUT WHEN I SEE A COUPLE--ANY COUPLE--ABOUT TO GET MUGGED, THERE'S ONLY ONE RULE I FOLLOW...

THAT WITH MY GREAT POWER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY!

PARKER!

YEAH! WHAT HE SAID!

FLAME ON!

JOHNNY! NOT YOU TOO!

BEN, CAN YOU TALK SOME SENSE INTO...

...THEM?

SAVE SOME FER ME! 'CAUSE IT'S CLOBBERIN' TIME!

WELL, DEAR? LOOKS LIKE WE'VE BEEN OUTVOTED.

GUESS THAT'S HOW IT IS WITH FAMILIES. COME ALONG, DARLING...

...LET'S SAVE THE DAY. AGAIN.

LISTEN TO HIM. POOR MR. FANTASTIC. ALL MOPEY 'CAUSE SCIENCE CLASS IS OVER.

C'MON! THIS IS THE *FUN* PART! RIGHT, SPIDEY?

HEY, YOU DON'T HEAR ME COMPLAINING.

THAT'S A FIRST. SO PARKER, NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD A TASTE OF THE "*LIFE FANTASTIC*"...

...HOW ARE YOU EVER GONNA GO BACK TO YOUR HUM-DRUM SPIDER-WORLD?

OH, YOU KNOW ME, MATCHSTICK, I'LL MUDDLE THROUGH.

The Here And Now...

KNOW WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU, NORTON? YOU WORK WITH MY SCHEDULE. I MEAN, HERE IT IS, EIGHT O'CLOCK ON A FRIDAY...

I'VE BAGGED YOU, YOUR BAG A' LOOT, AND I'VE STILL GOT TIME FOR A MOVIE. SAY, WHAT'S PLAYING AT THE ZIEGFELD?

LAUGH IT UP, WEB-HEAD. TELL YOU WHAT, YOU BUY THE TICKETS, I'LL MEET YOU THERE.

COME AGAIN?

WHAT? ARE YOU *STUPID?* NORMAN OSBORN'S RUNNING THE SHOW NOW. THE WHOLE WORLD'S IN HIS *POCKET.*

DO YOU THINK I'M SEEING THE INSIDE OF A CELL TONIGHT? HECK, ALL I'VE GOTTA DO...

...IS TELL THE POWERS-THAT-BE THAT YOU SET THIS UP-- THAT YOU *FRAMED* ME...

WHO DO YOU THINK THEY'LL BELIEVE? ME OR *YOU?!*

...

ALL RIGHT, LOOTER. YOU GOT ME. ONE DAY I WOKE UP...

...AND IT WAS A DIFFERENT WORLD. EVERYTHING'S CHANGED.

...NORMAN --THE IRON PATRIOT-- OSBORN:

KEEPING WATCH TO KEEP YOU SAFE!

MAYBE IT'S TIME *I* CHANGED TOO.

WHAT IS THIS? LOOK, YOU'VE ALREADY WEBBED ME UP. WHAT--

SHUT UP! YOU'RE RIGHT. THIS ISN'T GOING TO CUT IT, *IS IT?!*

DUNNE

I'VE ALWAYS WORKED OUTSIDE THE LAW. ALWAYS BENT THE RULES TO GET THINGS DONE. BUT THESE ARE DARK TIMES, NORTON.

PLEASE. I-I CAN'T MOVE...

BENDING THE RULES ISN'T ENOUGH. I'M GONNA HAVE TO *BREAK THEM!*

STOP! WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU CAN'T--

AH! WEDGIE! *GNH*. IT'S REALLY RIDING UP BACK THERE!

NOT COOL, MAN! *NOT COOL!*

YEAH? LET'S SEE IF NORMAN OSBORN CAN GET YOU OUTTA *THAT*, PAL!

RAZZIN' FRAZZIN'...

SPIDER-MAN! FREEZE! WE'VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED!

EEP! IT'S THE FUZZ!

NO, IT'S NOT. JOHNNY! CUT THAT OUT!

SNORT YOU SHOULD SEE THE LOOK ON YOUR MASK. THAT WAS SO WORTH IT.

YOU'RE A LAUGH RIOT, TORCH. WHAT DO YOU GUYS WANT?!

ACTUALLY, SPIDER-MAN, IF YOU HAVE THE TIME, WE'D LIKE TO TAKE YOU *BACK* TO THE MACROVERSE.

WE'VE RECEIVED A DISTRESS SIGNAL OF SORTS, ASKING FOR *BOTH* THE FANTASTIC FOUR *AND* SPIDER-MAN.

A DISTRESS SIGNAL? THE LAST TIME WE WERE THERE, THEY WEREN'T EVEN WEARING PANTS.

HOW'D THEY PLACE A CALL...DOWN HERE?

INTRIGUING, ISN'T IT?

KNOW WHAT'S *MORE* INTRIGUING? NOT THAT OUR HIGH-TECH CELL PHONES WERE *GETTING* CALLS FROM ALIENS...

...IT'S THAT WE COULDN'T MAKE A CALL TO *YOU*. WHY IS THAT?

WHY DO I SUDDENLY *NOT* HAVE YOUR DIGITS? OR A NAME I CAN LOOK UP? IT'S LIKE I USED TO KNOW, BUT--

SHH. ADULTS TALKING. LOOK, I APPRECIATE THE OFFER.

AND AS MUCH AS I'D LOVE TO GET AWAY FROM IT ALL... ESPECIALLY AFTER THE LAST COUPLE OF WEEKS...

...I'VE GOT WORK TO DO, BILLS TO PAY...

OF COURSE. AND *FANTASTIC FOUR INCORPORATED* IS MORE THAN HAPPY TO COMPENSATE YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

I BELIEVE THIS SHOULD COVER IT.

AWW. AND IT'S MADE OUT TO "*CASH*". THAT'S LIKE MY MIDDLE NAME.

ACTUALLY, SPIDER-MAN, I FELT THAT WAS BEST.

Fantastic Four, 4 Freedoms Plaza New York, NY 100
Check No
Pay to the order of: Cash
Amount
$
Memo: Consulting fee
Reed Richards

WE KNOW HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT PROTECTING YOUR TRUE IDENTITY. EVEN FROM US.

THANKS. THAT--MEANS A LOT.

YEAH, AUNT MAY. I'LL BE OUT OF TOWN FOR A FEW DAYS.

SORT OF LIKE A CAMPING TRIP. WITH ONE OF MY OLD PROFESSORS AND HIS FAMILY. A KIND OF SCIENCE-CAMPING TRIP.

NO. RENT'S COVERED. ACTUALLY, IT'S *MORE* THAN COVERED.

42 USA

G & G Realty Group
[illegible] Third Avenue
York, Ny 10018

WITH VIN OFF THE RADAR--AND NO WAY TO REACH HIM...

...I'M GOING TO HAVE TO PONY UP HIS HALF OF THE RENT THIS MONTH.

NO, IT'S OKAY, I'M GOOD FOR IT. HOW ARE THINGS DOWN AT THE F.E.A.S.T. SHELTER?

PETE'S ROOMMATE, VIN GONZALES, IS CURRENTLY IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY WHILE HE TURNS STATE'S EVIDENCE. --STEVE.

BUSIER THAN USUAL. IN FACT, IT LOOKS LIKE I'M NEEDED.

NOW YOU HAVE FUN WITH YOUR FRIENDS, DEAR.

AREA'S SECURE. LET'S KEEP THIS MOVING, SIR.

EXCUSE ME. I'M MAY PARKER, ONE OF THE ADMINISTRATORS HERE. CAN I HELP YOU, MISTER...?

TOWER, BLAKE TOWER. I'M THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE AND, FOR THE TIME BEING, THE ACTING MAYOR OF NEW YORK.

OH, MY. THIS IS BECAUSE OF THAT MESS WITH THE HOLLISTERS, ISN'T IT?

YES, MA'AM. "*MESS*" BEING THE OPERATIVE WORD. I WAS TOLD I COULD FIND *MARTIN LI* HERE.

OF COURSE. RIGHT THIS WAY, YOUR HONOR. IT IS "*YOUR HONOR*," ISN'T IT?

FOR THE NEXT SIXTY DAYS.

MR. LI, I NEED TO SPEAK TO YOU ON BEHALF OF OUR POLITICAL PARTY.

AH. I ASSUME THIS CONCERNS THE SPECIAL ELECTION. YOU NEED A DONATION? AN ENDORSEMENT?

NO. WE NEED *YOU*. WE TOOK A BEATING ON HOLLISTER. AND IF WE'RE GOING TO *SAVE* THIS ELECTION...

...WE NEED SOMEONE WITH *YOUR* GOOD WILL. HOW ABOUT IT, MARTIN? THINK OF ALL THE *GOOD* YOU COULD DO...

"...AS THE NEXT MAYOR OF NEW YORK."

YES. THE IDEA CERTAINLY HAS...

...POSSIBILITIES.

ALL RIGHT. GOT MY TOOTHBRUSH, SPARE UNDERWEAR, AND I EVEN THOUGHT TO USE THE LITTLE SPIDER'S ROOM.

I AM GOOD TO GO.

BESIDES, THIS SHOULDN'T TAKE LONG. I'M SURE THIS FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD CAN SURVIVE A DAY OR TWO WITHOUT ME.

BRRING BRING

HI, THIS IS PETE. I'M GONNA BE OUT OF TOWN FOR A WHILE.

WAY, WAY, WAYYYY OUT OF TOWN. TRUST ME, YOU HAVE NO IDEA.

BUT MY FAITHFUL ANSWER MACHINE'S STILL HERE SO...LEAVE A MESSAGE.

BEEP

P-PETE? YOU THERE? ITSSS HARRY...DID S-SOMETHING STUPID.

GOTTA HELP ME, PETE. P-PLEASE PICK UP. I-I--NEED YOU, PETE. I NEED YOU...

Brooklyn, The Home Of Bill Hollister...

BILL? I MADE YOU SOME LUNCH. YOU REALLY SHOULD EAT SOMETHING.

LATER, CARLIE. I'M NOT ALL THAT HUNGRY RIGHT NOW.

BRRING BRING

WHY DON'T I GET THAT?

HARRY? WHAT ARE YOU--? YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING, HAVEN'T YOU? DAMN IT, HARRY, DON'T DO THIS!

VIN'S AWAY. BILL'S FALLING APART. MY JOB'S A WRECK. I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR-- HARRY?!

HARRY?!

STAY THERE. I'LL BE RIGHT OVER.

Al,
Don't waste time looking for me. I'm gone. Or maybe you never met the real me to begin with.
L.

AS YOU KNOW, PYM PARTICLES CAN REDUCE AN OBJECT TO A POINT WHERE IT SHRINKS *OUT* OF THIS UNIVERSE.

CROSSING INTO THE MICROVERSE.

CORRECT.

OY.

HERE WE GO AGAIN...

NOW THE THEORY OF OLD WAS THAT IT TRAVELED FURTHER *INTO* THE UNIVERSE. LIKE HEADING TOWARDS THE CENTER OF A BOX.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE CASE. THE OBJECT CROSSES A THRESHOLD POINT...

...AND PASSES THROUGH TO A WORLD *BELOW* THE BOX.

EXCELLENT. YES.

NOW, BY REVERSING THE PROCESS, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TRAVEL TO THE PLANE *ABOVE* THE BOX.

I'M ASSUMING THAT THE SPACES *BETWEEN* OUR ATOMS WILL ALLOW US TO--

HEY, MAC AN' P.C.!

GET A ROOM, WHY DON'TCHA!

SEE YOU SOON!

BYE, KIDS!

BYE, MOM!

BYE, DAD! BYE, SPIDER-MAN!

The Baxter Building, home to the Fantastic Four.

HEY, FLAME-TOP. NO HARD FEELINGS ABOUT EARLIER?

HEY, I'M COOL IF YOU'RE COOL... STRANGER.

SLEEPY'S The Mattress Professionals

SO...IT'S GONNA BE ONE OF *THOSE* KINDA ROAD TRIPS?

YOU'RE GONNA KICK MY SEAT THE WHOLE WAY, HUH?

PRETTY MUCH. C'MON, I'LL SHOW YOU OUR RIDE.

HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LAST ROCKET-DOOHICKEY WE TOOK TO THE MACROVERSE?

THAT OL' THING? WE GAVE IT TO NASA. OR DISNEYWORLD. OR SOMETHING.

YOU KNOW REED. ANY EXCUSE TO BUILD A *NEW* ROCKET-DOOHICKEY.

SO SUE, WHEN WILL YOU BE BACK?

I'M NOT SURE. TIME RUNS DIFFERENTLY THERE. LAST TIME WE LOST TWO DAYS. IF THAT HOLDS, WE SHOULD BE BACK IN A WEEK.

NOW VAL, FRANKLIN, YOU BE GOOD FOR AUNT ALICIA AND UNCLE ARLO...

...AND MAYBE MOM WILL BRING YOU BACK SOMETHING FROM THE OTHER DIMENSION, OKAY?

NICE BIT OF TECH, DR. RICHARDS. IS THAT A PYM PARTICLE GENERATOR?

GOOD EYE, SON. YES, IT IS A PYM DEVICE, A DIMENSIONAL WAVE INDUCER.

THIS IS WHAT WILL GET US TO THE MACROVERSE. LAST TIME, WE WENT THROUGH A WORMHOLE...

...THIS TIME, WE'RE GOING TO GROW INTO THE NEXT DIMENSION.

WHAT?!

STARTING ENLARGEMENT PROCESS. STRAP YERSELVES IN!

HERE WE GO, TEAM. INFINI-BUS ONE DEPARTING IN 3...2...1...

OOH. THAT FEELS WEIRD.

WHOA! WHOA! WHOA!

I CAN SEE MY HOUSE FROM HEEEERE!

QUINC

AND YESTERDAY'S LUNCH.

C-CAN DEFINITELY SEE YESTERDAY'S LUNCH...

STOMACH CONTENTS DEPARTING IN 3...2...

SPIDER-MAN, STOP IT. YOU'RE WORSE THAN THE CHILDREN.

The Macroverse.

ALL RIGHT EVERYBODY, CALM DOWN. THE RIDE'S OVER. WE'RE HERE.

Y'KNOW, MY OLD COLLEGE ROOMMATE USED TO TELL ME ABOUT TRIPS LIKE THAT...

...BEFORE HE WENT THROUGH DETOX.

REED, YOU BETTER CALL THE AUTO CLUB. I THINK WE'RE LOST. NONE A' THIS LOOKS RIGHT.

I'M WITH BEN. LAST TIME WE WERE HERE, THE PEOPLE WERE LIVING IN MUD HUTS. NOW LOOK AT THE PLACE.

BUT CHECK OUT THE SKY. THE TINY SUNS. THE BABY PLANETS. THIS *IS* THE MACROVERSE.

AND ACCORDING TO MY NAV COMPUTER, WE'RE BACK IN THE LAND OF KORT.

THE SAME CIVILIZATION WE VISITED BEFORE. EXCEPT NOW THEY'RE APPROACHING A PREINDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.

HERE'S HOPING THEY MAKE IT. YOU GUYS SEE THIS? BUILDINGS BLASTED APART. SCORCHED EARTH.

THIS'S A WAR ZONE. NO WONDER THESE PEOPLE PUT OUT A CALL FOR HELP.

PEOPLE? WHAT PEOPLE? IT'S A GHOST TOWN.

AGREED. AND AS ADVANCED AS THE KORT HAVE BECOME...

...I DON'T SEE ANY TECHNOLOGY HERE THAT COULD'VE SENT A SIGNAL TO EARTH.

MAYBE... MAYBE THEY DIDN'T NEED ANY.

YOU HAVE A THEORY?

WELL, IT'S LIKE YOU SAID BEFORE, OUR WORLD ISN'T *INSIDE* THE MACROVERSE. IT'S A LEVEL *BELOW* IT.

EVER LIVE IN AN APARTMENT IN NEW YORK? MAYBE THESE GUYS ARE OUR NOISY UPSTAIRS NEIGHBORS?

BRILLIANT!

IMAGINE A THRONG OF PEOPLE--CRYING OUT WITH ONE VOICE--INSIDE A DISH-SHAPED STRUCTURE...

LIKE *THIS* AMPHITHEATER?

YES! AND IF ALL OF THESE MINIATURE STARS AND PLANETS WERE ALIGNED...

...TO FORM A MASSIVE GRAVITY FUNNEL...

YER LOSING ME, STRETCH. AS USUAL.

WAIT. THIS IS ALL LIKE VAL'S BEDTIME BOOK...

..."HORTON HEARS A WHO."

DR. SEUSS. NOW *THERE'S* A DOC I CAN UNNERSTAND!

GUYS, OVER HERE...

I DON'T THINK THOSE WERE DISTRESS CALLS...

...I THINK THEY WERE *PRAYERS.*

I ALWAYS SAID I WUZ THE *IDOL* OF MILLIONS, BUT THIS'S RIDICULOUS!

HEADS UP!
WE'RE ABOUT TO GET A *MASS* RECEPTION. AS IN "*SUNDAY MASS.*"
IT'S A MIRACLE!
THE GODS HAVE RETURNED!
IN OUR MOMENT OF GREATEST NEED!
HAIL THE FIVE GODS!
DELIVER US FROM THE DREGANS!
SMITE DOWN OUR ENEMIES!
I'LL START SMITING *ALL* A' YOU, IF YOU DON'T *BACK OFF!*
PRAISE THE STONE GIANT!
AS THE TEXT STATES, EVER MUST WE LOVE HIS BLUE EYES!
PLEASE, PEOPLE OF KORT, WE'RE *NOT* GODS.
THIS IS ALL WRONG.
WAIT. THAT STATUE OF SPIDEY...
...SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.
OH NO...
...THIS IS TERRIBLE.
REED RICHARDS! A TIME LIKE THIS...
...AND YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR LIKENESS?
IT'S FAR TOO OLD!
REED!
NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND--
HEY!
AM I THE *ONLY ONE* WHO SEES THIS?!
HE'S UNMASKED!

UH... TORCH, NOW'S PROBABLY NOT THE BEST--

BIG. STATUE. NO. MASK!

YES, JOHNNY. I SEE THAT, BUT--

BUT *NOTHING!* THESE MACROVERSE GUYS, THEY'VE SEEN HIM WITHOUT HIS MASK!

WE--WE HAD AN ADVENTURE HERE! WITH HIM! AND HE WAS *MASKLESS! I KNOW IT! I REMEMBER IT!*

BUT I-- I *DON'T!* I MEAN...I CAN'T REMEMBER IT *RIGHT!*

IT WAS JUST A COUPLE YEARS AGO. WE TEAMED UP WITH SPIDEY. WE RESCUED A PRINCESS AND BROUGHT HER HOME...

AND THE *WHOLE* TIME HE WAS *MASK-FREE!*

AND I CAN'T REMEMBER HIS *FACE!* NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY!

THEN STOP, OKAY? JUST *DROP* IT, STORM!

HOLD ON. YOU KNOW I DON'T KNOW? BUT HOW? UNLESS...

YOU *DID* SOMETHING TO US! YOU MADE US--

BOYS! THIS IS *NOT* THE TIME. WE HAVE TO HEAD BACK TO THE SHIP *NOW!*

WHAT IS THIS?! WHY ARE YOU ALL OUT IN THE OPEN?

PATRONUS! FORGIVE US...

IF THE DREGANS SEE SUCH A TEMPTING TARGET, IT COULD SPUR ANOTHER ATTACK!

BUT, LORD PATRONUS, THE GODS HAVE RETURNED!

THEY'VE ANSWERED OUR MONTHS OF PRAYER!

FOOLS.

SIRE, PLEASE. BE JOYOUS! OUR GODS WILL RID US OF THE DREGGS ONCE AND FOR ALL.

MYTHS AND LEGENDS. ONLY I KNOW THE *TRUE* STORY. THESE ARE *NO* GODS.

NO. THEY ARE THE *CAUSE* OF ALL OUR SORROWS.

REED! BETTER PUT SOME QUARTERS IN THE METER!

SAVE US!

I DON'T THINK WE'RE TAKIN' OFF ANYTIME SOON!

INCOMING!

"WE GOT BAD GUYS AT TWO O'CLOCK!

"AND THIS TIME, THEY AIN'T JUST RIDING GIANT LIZARDS. THEY'RE RIDING GIANT LIZARDS WITH *CANNONS!*"

EVERYONE, FIND COVER! GO BACK TO YOUR HIDING SPOTS! HURRY!

YOU HEARD THE GREAT GODDESS SUZIE! *VAMOOSE!*

BEN! QUIT DEIFYING US!

LISTEN UP! STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING. FAMILY MEETING. NOW!

NOW?! REED! GIANT LIZARDS WITH CANNONS.

SUE? FORCE FIELD?

YOU'RE COSTIN' ME SERIOUS LIZARD-TIME HERE.

I UNDERSTAND. BUT I HAVE SOME *PRESSING* NEWS FOR ALL OF US.

I'VE MISCALCULATED THE TIME DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN OUR WORLD AND THE MACROVERSE.

THE LAST TIME WE WERE HERE, WE LOST TWO DAYS WHEN WE RETURNED HOME.

I ASSUMED THE RELATIONSHIP WAS A SIMPLE LINEAR PROGRESSION. I WAS WRONG...

HOW WRONG?!

JUDGING FROM THE WEAR, TEAR, AND AGE OF OUR STATUES--

YOU MEAN THE *CONVENIENT* WEAR AND TEAR THAT'S WORN DOWN THE FACE ON *ONE*--

--AND *ONLY* ONE OF OUR STATUES?!

LET IT *GO!*

REED, PLEASE, HOW MUCH TIME ARE WE TALKING--

OKAY, I'M SURE THIS'S INTERESTING AND ALL, BUT IF WE DON'T ACTUALLY FIGHT BAD GUYS, WE'LL LOSE OUR HERO LICENSE!

ALL OF YOU! THIS IS *IMPORTANT*. YOU *NEED* TO HEAR THIS!

NO! I *NEED* TO KNOW WHAT I *USED* TO KNOW!

WHO THE HELL *ARE* YOU?! TELL ME! YOU *SAY* YOU'RE MY FRIEND BUT--

NO! I AM *NOT* GOING DOWN THAT ROAD AGAIN! *NO ONE KNOWS!* THAT--THAT'S HOW IT HAS TO BE! NO EXCEPTIONS!

AND IF THAT MEANS WE'RE *NOT* FRIENDS? *FINE!*

WHOA!

OW. DID YOU JUST--?

HEY! DON'T WALK AWAY FROM ME WHEN I'M--

NO. WE'RE *DONE!*

NO. *YOU'RE* DONE. *WELL DONE!*

WHAT THE--?!

OW! OW! OW!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU *DID* THAT!

GETTITTOFF! GETTITTOFF! GETTIT--

--OFF!

NO WAY! NO FREAKIN' WAY!

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

WHO ARE YOU?!

FRIEND OR FORGOTTEN?!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #591

FACE FRONT

PART 2: 'NUFF SAID!

DAN SLOTT
WRITER

BARRY KITSON & JESSE DELPERGANG
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LETTERS

TOM BRENNAN
A ROCK

STEPHEN WACKER
STUCK

TOM BREVOORT
A HARD PLACE

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GALE, GUGGENHEIM, KELLY, SLOTT & WAID - WEB-HEADS

YOU WANTED TO SEE ME *WITHOUT* MY MASK? **FINE!**

I HOPE YOU'RE PROUD OF YOURSELF, TORCH!

WHAT THE--?! THAT-- THAT AIN'T RIGHT!

WHAT? I GOT SOMETHING ON MY FACE?

SUE! YOU TURNED HIM INVISIBLE? NO FAIR!

REALLY? THANKS FOR THE SAVE!

ANY TIME, SPIDEY. AS FOR *YOU*, JONATHAN STORM...

GUYS?!

SETTING HIS MASK ON FIRE?! WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?

YOU CAN'T UNMASK A HERO *AGAINST* THEIR WILL. IT'S AN INVASION OF PRIVACY. A BETRAYAL OF *TRUST!*

TRUST?! WHAT TRUST?

TRUST IS *SHARING* YOUR SECRET IDENTITY WITH YOUR *FRIENDS*. AS FAR AS I CAN TELL...

...HE *GAVE* IT TO US. AND THEN TOOK IT *BACK!*

THAT'S *VERY* UNLIKELY.

YOU HEARD THE MAN. "*VERY UNLIKELY.*"

SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD INVOLVE MORE THAN JUST US. HE'D HAVE TO WIPE THE MEMORIES OF EVERYONE ON *EARTH*.

TELEPATHS, MAGIC-USERS, ALIEN HYBRIDS.

NOT TO MENTION ALTERING ALL OF THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE, THE PAPER TRAILS, THE COMPUTER FILES.

HOW COULD SOMEONE WITH SPIDER-MAN'S RESOURCES--

NUTS TO THIS! SUZIE, LET ME OUTTA THIS FORCE FIELD!

YOU CAN ALL STAND AROUND FLAPPIN' YER GUMS! ME?
I'M GONNA POUND ON THE EVIL BARBARIAN HORDE. REMEMBER *THEM*?!
THE THING'S GOT A POINT. I SAY WE TABLE THE WHOLE MINDWIPE-THING...
...AND PUNCH SOME BADDIES. WHO'S WITH ME?

ALL RIGHT, IF WE MUST. BUT ALL OF YOU, *TIME* IS OF THE ESSENCE. PLEASE HURRY!
REED? BEFORE JOHNNY, DISTRACTED US...
WHAM
...AND THESE BEAST MEN RODE IN. YOU WERE TRYING TO TELL US SOMETHING. CAN IT WAIT?
I WISH IT COULD, DARLING.
SO THAT'S IT? WE'RE JUST SUPPOSED TO FORGET ABOUT THIS MINDWIPE--
MINDWIPE? WHAT MINDWIPE?

SEE? IT'S ALREADY WORKING.
WHOA!
GNH! HEY, JOHNNY, LITTLE HELP?
OH, WE'RE ON FIRST NAME TERMS HERE?
FINE. WHAT'S *YOURS*?!

UNBELIEVABLE. THIS IS HOW THE "*FIVE GODS*" COMPORT THEMSELVES? LIKE SQUABBLING CHILDREN?

PATHETIC.

UM...WE GOT A NEW PLAYER OVER HERE. SCARY ARMOR. BIG GUN.

ANYONE KNOW IF HE'S A GOOD GUY OR A...

NEVER MIND. HE'S ON OUR SIDE.

KROOM

THAT, OR HE'S A LOUSY SHOT.

I AM *PATRONUS*, SOVEREIGN PROTECTOR OF THE LAND OF KORT.

THE MAN WHO'S BEEN CLEANING UP THE MESS YOU FIVE CREATED A LIFETIME AGO.

"*LIFETIME*"? DID HE JUST SAY--?

YES, DEAR. THE TIME DISTORTION BETWEEN OUR DIMENSIONS INCREASES...

...*AND* SHIFTS POLARITY EACH TIME WE CROSS OVER INTO THE MACROVERSE.

THEN THAT HYPER-ACCELERATION IS NOW *DECELERATION*?

REED! THE CHILDREN!

I KNOW. THE LONGER WE'RE IN THE MACROVERSE, THE FASTER TIME MOVES ON EARTH.

SUE, NOT TO ALARM YOU, BUT...BIRTHDAYS? CHRISTMASES? WE MIGHT MISS THEIR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATIONS.

BUT IT'S FRANKLIN'S BIRTHDAY NEXT WEEK...

WE HAVE TO GO HOME! NOW!

NO! MY PEOPLE *PRAYED* THAT YOU'D COME HERE. THAT YOU'D END OUR WAR WITH THE DREGAN!

A WAR *YOU* STARTED!

HEAR ME, FIVE GODS. YOU *WILL* STAY!

AND YOU *WILL* FIX THIS!

SO? DR. RICHARDS, I'M ASSUMING YOU DID THE MATH.

IF WE DO STAY AND HELP MR. HAPPY HELMET OVER HERE...

...HOW MUCH EARTH TIME WILL WE MISS?

BY MY CALCULATIONS...

Back On Earth...

HAROLD THEOPOLIS OSBORN, YOU'RE A WRECK.

MMFINE, CARLIE. THANKS FOR GETTIN' ME THROUGH THE WORST OF IT. BYE NOW.

THE WORST OF IT? NO. *THIS* WAS THE EASY PART.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BABYSIT ME. I'VE BEEN TO A.A. BEFORE.

THAT'S THE POINT. MY DAD *WENT* TO A.A. MAYBE IF HE KEPT GOING, HE'D STILL BE HERE.

I'M NOT LETTING YOU OUT OF MY *SIGHT*.

MEETING SCHEDULE

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

...SHE HAD THIS WHOLE SECRET LIFE, THIS OTHER SIDE TO HER.

IF I LOVED HER SO MUCH, WHY COULDN'T I SEE IT?

HARRY. HER OWN *FATHER* DIDN'T KNOW. LILY WAS LIKE A SISTER TO ME, AND I COULDN'T SEE IT.

YOU'RE NOT ALONE.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

MY FIRST THIRTY DAYS. CLEAN AND SOBER. I-I OWE YOU, CARLIE COOPER.

WHEN *NO ONE* ELSE WAS THERE FOR ME...

HARRY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO--

NO. I'M NOT GONNA FORGET THIS.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

...FOR EVERY *HOUR* WE SPEND IN THE MACROVERSE...

Back On Earth...

MARLA! I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE!

AND IF YOU *EVER* WANT TO SEE ANOTHER DIME OUT OF J. JONAH JAMESON...

...YOU'LL COME TO YOUR SENSES AND RESUME THIS MARRIAGE *IMMEDIATELY!*

YOU HEAR ME?! THIS IS YOUR *ONE* AND *ONLY*--

SUN/MON/**TUE**/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

MARLA, DEAREST. IT'S ME AGAIN...

LOOK, I CAN BE THE BIGGER MAN. NOT THAT YOU'RE A MAN.

WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS THAT I'VE *GROWN* IN OUR TIME APART...

...AND I'M MORE THAN WILLING TO FORGIVE YOUR VILE BETRAYALS AND THE WAYS YOU'VE SULLIED MY GOOD NAME.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/**SAT**

IT'S ME AGAIN, MARLA. I WANTED TO TELL YOU...

I UNDERSTAND. I KNOW *WHY* YOU SOLD THE BUGLE. BECAUSE YOU LOVE ME.

OR *LOVED* ME. WHETHER AN OLD COOT LIKE ME DESERVED IT OR NOT.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/**THUR**/FRI/SAT

JONAH? I KNOW YOU'RE OUT THERE. AGAIN.

ALL RIGHT. COME BY TONIGHT AT SEVEN. TAKE ME TO MY FAVORITE RESTAURANT. AND WE'LL TALK.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

...THIRTEEN-AND-ONE-THIRD DAYS GO BY...

Back on Earth...

ROBBIE, HAVE YOU SEEN PARKER? I THINK HE'S DUCKING ME.

SORRY, NORAH. PETE HASN'T BEEN BY FRONT LINE IN WEEKS.

SAY...MY SON RANDY DROPPED BY FOR LUNCH. BUT I'M BUSY GETTING TOMORROW'S ISSUE OUT. MAYBE THE TWO OF YOU COULD--

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

AWESOME SHOW!

HOW'D YOU SCORE TICKETS TO *NEW FOUND GLORY*?

PRESS PASSES. YOUR DAD'S ALWAYS TOSSING ME NICE PERKS. LIKE *YOU!*

WHAT?!

I SAID, "*YOU'RE* A NICE PERK."

WHAT?!

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

HANGING WITH YOU IS PRETTY COOL, WINTERS. I'M GETTING USED TO THIS ALL-ACCESS TREATMENT.

LOOK AT THIS. WE'RE GOING RIGHT PAST THE TICKET LINE.

YEAH. IT'S CALLED PAYING BY PHONE, GENIUS.

YOU'RE LUCKY YOU MAKE GOOD ARM CANDY, ROBERTSON.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

REALLY? YOU WANT TO SEE THAT MOVIE *AGAIN?* I MEAN IT WAS GOOD AND ALL, BUT...

WELL, I THOUGHT MAYBE THIS TIME WE COULD GO...

...AND *NOT* WATCH THE MOVIE.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

...BACK ON EARTH.

NO!

Back On Earth...

REALLY? ANY RELATION TO J. JONAH JAMESON?

I'M HIS FATHER.

WELL, MR. JAMESON, I'M FLATTERED. BUT AS YOU CAN SEE, THINGS ARE BUSY HERE. PERHAPS ANOTHER TIME--

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

--A KID COLT MOVIE. NOW HOW ON EARTH DID YOU KNOW I WAS SUCH A FAN?

IT'S YOUR HAIR. YOU WEAR IT LIKE GRACE KELLY DID IN "*HERO OF THE WEST.*"

BUT OF COURSE, SHE COULDN'T HOLD A CANDLE TO YOU, MAY.

HMM. REMIND ME TO THANK BETTY BRANT FOR SETTING US UP.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

--TOO SOON FOR ANOTHER MOVIE?

JAY, AFTER THE BALLET, THE KNICKS GAME, AND TWO TRIPS TO THE MUSEUM...

...GOING TO THE MOVIES IS JUST MY SPEED.

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

THIS PLACE IS SO *FANCY*, JAY. HOW DID YOU EVER GET US IN HERE?

BEATS ME. I JUST GAVE THEM MY NAME AND THEY WALKED US RIGHT IN.

OF COURSE I HAVE A RESERVATION, YOU MENU-WAVING MISCREANT!

NOW GET ME THE MANAGER! GET ME A TABLE! GET ME THE *WINE LIST!*

SUN/MON/TUE/WEDS/THUR/FRI/SAT

WE WERE ONLY *SUPPOSED* TO LOSE A DAY OR TWO.

YOU'RE SAYING WE'RE ALREADY A MONTH IN THE HOLE! I VOTE WE--

SORRY. THIS ISN'T UP FOR A VOTE. IF WHAT PATRONUS SAYS IS TRUE...

...WE USED OUR POWER IRRESPONSIBLY, AND NOW--

STOP. YOU HAD ME AT "*POWER*" AND "*IRRESPONSIBLY.*" ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET THIS DONE. *FAST.*

GOOD. I HAVE A PLAN--

EASY, BUB. I GOT A THING ABOUT ARMOR-PLATED HEADS A' STATE. HOW DO WE KNOW YOU'RE ON THE LEVEL?

SPIDEY? DOES YOUR SPIDER-SENSE TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT HIM?

I'M NOT PICKING UP ANY BAD VIBES. BUT MY POWERS DON'T WORK THAT WAY.

HE'S *NOT* TRYING TO HURT US. AT LEAST DIRECTLY. AS FAR AS MY GUT GOES...I THINK WE CAN TRUST HIM.

GREAT. *TRUSTY MCTRUST* HERE SAYS WE CAN TRUST HIM.

STORM!

I'VE TAKEN ENOUGH OF YOU AND YOUR--

WELL I DON'T GIVE A--

ENOUGH! I'VE HAD IT UP TO HERE WITH THE BOTH OF YA!

DON'T YOU GET IT?! WHEN THE FANTASTIC FOUR TAKES YOU IN AN' FIGHTS SIDE-BY-SIDE WITH YA...

...YOU'RE NOT JUST FRIENDS, YOU'RE MORE THAN FAMILY, YOU'RE NOT A TEAM--YOU'RE *THE* TEAM! THE WORLD'S *GREATEST* TEAM!

IT'S NO *"I WANT THIS"* OR *"I'M DOIN' THAT"*! YOU KNOW *WHY?!*

BECAUSE THERE'S NO "I" IN "FANTASTIC FOUR!"

ACTUALLY, BEN, THERE'S--

SHH, DEAR. HE'S ON A ROLL.

SO WHATTYA SAY?!

YOU IN?

ALWAYS.

OF COURSE, OLD FRIEND.

SURE. WHY NOT?

TSSSSSS

YOW!

SUNNUVA BISCUIT!

HA! GOTCHA!

JUST *ONCE* CAN YOU *ACT* LIKE A *REAL* SUPER HERO?! *JUST ONCE!*

OH, I KNOW *I* CAN! CAN *YOU?* 'CAUSE I'M ALL OVER THIS!

The Heart Of The Dregan Empire.

I'M UP TO, LIKE, FIFTY GUYS.

FIFTY? I TAKE ON FIFTY GUYS ON A SLOW DAY.

YEAH? TAKING OUT A QUARTER OF *GALACTUS* IS MY SLOW DAY.

WELL GOOD FOR YOU AND GALACTUS' SHIN.

SHUT UP!

I'M WATCHING YOU, PATRONUS. MY TEAM ISN'T HERE TO TOPPLE A REGIME.

YOU SAID WE COULD HELP YOU PUT AN *END* TO THE FIGHTING.

YES. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GET ME PAST THE DREGAN DEFENSES...

...AND FORCE AN AUDIENCE WITH MYSELF AND THEIR ROYAL FAMILY. LEAVE ME WITH THEM--ALONE AND UNARMED...

AND I *SWEAR* TO YOU, THIS AGE-OLD CONFLICT WILL COME TO ITS *PEACEFUL* CONCLUSION.

JOHNNY?! SPIDER-MAN! WHY ARE THEY BREAKING FORMATION?

WHAT, DIDN'T YA KNOW? THEY'RE HAVING A RACE...

"...TO SEE WHO CAN BE THE BIGGEST IDIOT!"

YOU ARE *REALLY* TICKING ME OFF, YOU KNOW THAT?! I MEAN, WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?

THIS'S A SPIDEY-TORCH JAM! WE USED TO GET A KICK OUTTA THESE--

YEAH? WE USED TO BE FIFTEEN! *GROW UP!*

SORRY TO RUIN YOUR *FUN*, STORM, BUT THINGS ARE DIFFERENT NOW!

WHAT?! HOW?

ARE YOU MONUMENTALLY STUPID? THINGS HAVE GOTTEN... DARK.

YOU WANT TO KNOW WHO I AM?! Y'KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF *THAT* GETS OUT--

--WITH THE WAY THE WORLD IS *NOW*?!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN? TO MY FAMILY?! MY FRIENDS?!

HEY!

YOU'VE ALREADY HIT THAT GUY A ZILLION TIMES. I DON'T THINK HE'S GETTING UP.

LET. GO.

EASY, PAL.

I'M *NOT* YOUR PAL. AND THESE? THESE AREN'T MY CLOTHES. THIS'S MY DISGUISE!

IT'S NOT *WHO* I AM. THIS--THIS SUPER HERO STUFF *ISN'T* MY LIFE!

MY *REAL* LIFE'S BACK ON EARTH! WITH MY *REAL* FRIENDS AND *REAL* FAMILY...

"...AND I'M MISSING IT!"

BEEP

PETE, THIS'S BEN URICH OVER AT FRONT LINE. IF YOU'RE BACK IN TOWN, I'VE GOT A JOB FOR YOU.

I NEED SHOTS OF TONIGHT'S DEBATE. YOU KNOW, FOR THE SPECIAL ELECTION.

SALLY FLOYD, FRONT LINE. AFTER THE HOLLISTER DEBACLE, MOST NEW YORKERS HAVE LOST INTEREST IN THIS PROCESS.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, WHY NOT OPEN THESE DEBATES UP TO THE THIRD PARTY CANDIDATE? MR. LI? MR. DECLUN?

I'M SORRY. I THOUGHT THAT DUE TO HIS LACK OF EXPERIENCE, MARTY HERE *WAS* THE THIRD PARTY CADIDATE.

OH, COME ON. THAT WAS FUNNY. IS THIS THING ON?

BEEP

THIS IS A COURTESY CALL FROM G&G REALTY. MR. PARKER, WE'VE RECEIVED YOUR RENT PAYMENT, BUT THERE'S A PROBLEM.

THE NAME ON THE LEASE IS FOR ONE VINCENT GONZALES. IF YOU COULD PLEASE HAVE MR. GONZALES CONTACT US...

...YOU COULD LOSE EVERYTHING, MR. BENNETT. AS YOUR FINANCIAL ADVISOR, I SAY WALK AWAY. THIS PAPER OF YOURS? IT'S TANKING.

FOR A SOLID YEAR YOU FALSELY ACCUSED A MAN OF BEING A SERIAL KILLER. YOUR CREDIBILITY *AND* YOUR CIRCULATION ARE IN THE TOILET.

I DON'T CARE! I'LL FIND A NEW ANGLE. I *CAN MAKE THIS WORK!*

NO ONE'S TAKING THE DB AWAY FROM ME!

BEEP

VALUED CUSTOMER, IF YOU ACT NOW WE CAN OFFER YOU A FULL SUBSCRIPTION TO THE DB AT OUR NEW LOW, LOW RATE--

J. JONAH JAMESON! ARE YOU INSANE?! THIS IS WHY YOU WANTED TO GET BACK TOGETHER?!

IT'S FOR MY BACKERS. A CLEAN BILL A' HEALTH WASN'T ENOUGH FOR 'EM. THEY NEED TO SEE I'VE GOT A..."STABLE HOME LIFE" TOO.

MARLA, PLEASE! FAKE IT FOR ME! AT LEAST TILL THIS'S LOCKED UP. YOU--YOU *OWE ME!*

...DEAR.

BEEP

PETER, ARE YOU THERE? IT'S BETTY. I'M JUST REMINDING YOU...

...TOMORROW'S A BIG DAY FOR FLASH. HE'S BEEN WORKING REALLY HARD FOR THIS.

YOU HAVE TO SHOW UP. TOMORROW. 92ND STREET Y.M.C.A.

FIRST PLACE! FLASH THOMPSON I AM SO PROUD OF YOU.

THIS'S THE FLASH-MAN YOU'RE TALKING TO, BRANT. YOU EXPECT ANYTHING LESS?

SO, NO WORD FROM PUNY PARKER, HUH?

YOU KNOW PETE, SOMETHING PROBABLY TURNED UP...

BEEP

PETER? OH DEAR, YOU'RE STILL NOT BACK?

WELL, IF YOU GET THIS BEFORE SUNDAY, I'M MAKING ALL YOUR FAVORITES FOR DINNER. AND...

...THERE'S SOMEONE I WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO. DON'T WORRY, IT'S NOT A GIRL--

IT'S ALL RIGHT, MAY.

I JUST WISH YOU COULD MEET HIM.

DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE.

GOOD.

HI, THIS IS PETE. I'M GONNA BE OUT OF TOWN FOR A WHILE.

WAY, WAY, WAYYYY OUT OF TOWN. TRUST ME, YOU HAVE NO IDEA.

BUT MY FAITHFUL ANSWER MACHINE'S STILL HERE SO...LEAVE A MESSAGE.

BEEP

HEY, TIGER, I...I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD KNOW I'M--

MACHINE FULL. MESSAGE ERASED.

BEEP

The Royal Throne Room of Dregan.

YOUR MAJESTY, THEY'RE COMING. THE FIVE GODS HAVE RETURNED!

LET THEM COME. WE'LL SHOW THEM WHAT DREGANS ARE MADE OF.

DEATH TO THE GODS OF KORT!

KNOCK KNOCK!

KE-RAK

STAY BY HER MAJESTY. I'LL BE DAMNED IF THEY STEAL ANOTHER DREGAN PRINCESS!

SPIDER-MAN! THEIR WEAPONS!

YEAH, YEAH. I'M ON IT.

ME TOO!

FINE. WHATEVER WRAPS THIS UP FASTER.

WHAT SORCERY IS THIS?

IT IS THE MAGIC OF COWARDS!

THE ONLY WAY THE CRAVENLY KING OF KORT WOULD DARE FACE US.

I'VE GOT THE ONLY ENTRANCE BLOCKED. YOU'RE ON, PATRONUS. JUST REMEMBER...

...WE'RE KEEPING AN EYE ON YOU.

UNDERSTOOD. DARGO OF DREGAN, YEARS AGO YOUR FATHER STRUCK AN ACCORD WITH KORT.

AN ARRANGED MARRIAGE TO BIND OUR TWO KINGDOMS IN PEACE.

YES. WITH THE PRINCESS J'TAL. AND THE ARRANGEMENT WAS BROKEN.

YES. AND NO. FOR WHILE THE PRINCESS WAS STOLEN FROM YOU...

...BY A YOUNG, FOOLISH WARRIOR...

...WHO, IN TURN, WAS AIDED BY FIVE EVEN MORE FOOLISH GODS...

I AM HERE TO TELL YOU THAT J'TAL WAS TRUE TO HER WORD.

THE ARRANGEMENT WAS KEPT. AND THE MARRIAGE WAS...

...CONSUMMATED.

HE-- HE IS A DREGAN.

WHAT A SHOCKING TWIST. CAN WE GO NOW?

SHH.

I AM HALF-DREGAN, MY *YOUNGER* BROTHER.

THEN BY OUR LAWS, YOU ARE OUR RIGHTFUL KING.

BUT WHY, PATRONUS? WHY HIDE THIS SECRET ALL THESE YEARS.

I WAS JUST THINKIN' THE SAME THING.

THE PEOPLE OF KORT HAVE ALWAYS FEARED THE MORE POWERFUL DREGAN.

BUT HERE, WHERE IT IS JUST FAMILY, I MAY FINALLY SHOW MY TRUE FACE.

OH, COME ON! WHAT THE *HECK* IS THIS? AN AFTER SCHOOL SPECIAL?!

HEY. THE MORE YOU KNOW...

WELL, SPIDEY? BABY BROTHER? I THINK WE'VE ALL LEARNED A VALUABLE LESSON TODAY...

DEAR GOD, MAKE HER STOP.

DUDE, I'VE BEEN TRYING FOR YEARS. JUST RIDE IT OUT.

THE ACCORD HAS BEEN KEPT. THE ATTACKS ON KORT WILL STOP. AND THIS MATTER BETWEEN US...

...WILL STAY IN OUR ROYAL FAMILY. ON THAT, PATRONUS, YOU HAVE OUR WORD.

AND FOR THAT, DARGO, YOU HAVE OUR THANKS.

NO, I'M NOT BUYING INTO THIS. IT'S A TERRIBLE ANALOGY.

SHYEAH.

HE WORE A DISGUISE TO LOOK LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE. I'M THE OTHER WAY AROUND.

WHAT? SO YOU'RE *NOT* SPIDER-MAN? SEE, I DON'T GET THAT.

THEY'RE LIKE THIS *ALL* THE TIME?

PRETTY MUCH.

WELL, IT'S LIKE YOU'RE NOT *REALLY* THE HUMAN TORCH. YOU'RE JOHNNY STORM.

NO. NO. NO. DON'T *EVEN* JOKE ABOUT THAT. *EVER.*

FAREWELL, MY FRIENDS. IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, IT IS UNLIKELY WE SHALL MEET AGAIN.

IN A FEW OF *YOUR* YEARS, THE LAND OF KORT AND THE DREGAN EMPIRE WILL BE LONG GONE... REPLACED BY...

...WHO KNOWS?

WELL, NOT ME. THAT'S FOR CERTAIN. SO TELL ME, PATRONUS...

...HOW *WILL* YOU EXPLAIN THIS TO YOUR PEOPLE? THIS...SUDDEN OUTBREAK OF *PEACE*.

I'LL TELL THEM IT WAS DELIVERED UNTO THEM BY THEIR FIVE GODS. AND THAT WOULDN'T BE FAR FROM THE TRUTH.

PATRONUS...

LIVE LONG AND PROSPER.

PYM PARTICLES: CHECK. TRAY TABLES: UP.
INFINI-BUS ONE IS GOOD TA GO!
ALL RIGHT, SPIDER-MAN, NOW THAT WE FINALLY HAVE SOME TIME ON OUR HANDS. I HAVE TO ADMIT...
...I'M CURIOUS. THIS "*MINDWIPE*" OF YOURS, HOW DOES IT WORK?
REED, IT'S LIKE ***FIGHT CLUB***, THE FIRST RULE OF MINDWIPES IS YOU DON'T--
HUMOR ME.
ALL RIGHT. IT'S KIND OF A..."*PSYCHIC BLINDSPOT.*"
EVEN IF THERE'S A STACK OF EVIDENCE POINTING TO WHO I ***REALLY*** AM...
...YOUR MIND WON'T LET YOU CONNECT THE DOTS.
OR WE'D CONNECT THEM OURSELVES...BUT IN THE WRONG ORDER.
RIGHT. YOU'D COME UP WITH YOUR OWN SOLUTION. NOT THE RIGHT ONE. BUT ONE YOU COULD ACCEPT.
SO IS THERE ***ANY*** WAY YOUR IDENTITY COULD BE COMPROMISED?
IF SOMEONE UNMASKS ME. OR IF I UNMASK MYSELF. THEN FOR THAT PERSON IT'D ALL COME RUSHING BACK.
SO DO IT. UNMASK. FOR ***US***. IT'S ***STUPID*** NOT TO. WE'RE YOUR ***FRIENDS***. WE COULD HELP YOU WITH THINGS!
YEAH? AND WHAT HAPPENS THE NEXT TWENTY TIMES THE PUPPET MASTER TAKES CONTROL OF YOU? HELL, WHY STOP THERE? I COULD TELL THE AVENGERS TOO.
IT'S NOT LIKE SPIDER-WOMAN WASN'T A ***SKRULL*** THE LAST TIME I TOLD HER. AND WON'T IT BE GREAT IF WOLVERINE GETS BRAINWASHED BY HYDRA AND STARTS KILLING EVERYONE ***AGAIN?***
OR MAYBE LUKE CAGE GETS POSSESSED BY THE PURPLE MAN? I'VE SEEN THAT HAPPEN! I JUST CAN'T RISK IT. I-I CAN'T.
MAYBE YOU DON'T HAVE TO.

WHAT IF WE HAD "PSYCHIC BLINDSPOTS" TOO?
STRETCHY GUY SAYS WHAT?
LET ME TAKE SOME READINGS. I'LL DUPLICATE YOUR "FIREWALLS". THEN WE COULD SHARE AND KEEP YOUR SECRET, TOO.
I-I DUNNO...
HEY, IT'S LIKE BEN SAID...
WHEN YOU'RE WITH US, YOU'RE NOT JUST PART OF A TEAM. YOU'RE PART OF A FAMILY.
WE WON'T LET YOU DOWN.
PROMISE.
...
ALL RIGHT. I GOTTA WARN YOU, THE WAY THIS WORKS...
...ONCE YOU SEE ME, IT'LL ALL COME BACK TO YOU.
YOU'LL REMEMBER EVERYTHING.
HI, PETE. LONG TIME, NO SEE.

The Baxter Building.

AHHH!

SORRY, PETER. I SHOULD'VE EXPLAINED...

...AS WE SHRINK BACK INTO OUR UNIVERSE...

...WE *APPEAR* TO BE FALLING FASTER THAN WE ACTUALLY ARE.

YEAH. THANKS FOR THAT.

SO? WHAT'S THE VERDICT, DOC? HOW MUCH TIME HAVE WE LOST?

ACCORDING TO MY QUANTUM SYNCHRONIZER...

...TWO MONTHS.

PARDON MY FRENCH BUT... WALLOPPIN' FREAKIN' WEB-SNAPPERS!

AW, MAN. MY TIVO'S PROBABLY FULL.

THE KIDS MUST BE WORRIED. I HAVE TO CALL ALICIA.

YEAH, AND I SHOULD CHECK IN WITH DEBBIE.

GOOD LUCK WITH THAT! I NEED TO CHECK IN ON... *EVERYTHING!*

MY AUNT! MY JOB! MY *RENT!!!*

GOTTA GO!

SEE YOU AROUND, PETE.

THIS IS SO NOT GOOD. UNLESS VIN'S OUTTA THE POKEY NOW...

THAT'S A WHOLE MONTH I DIDN'T PAY OUR RENT! WHAT DO I TELL THE LANDLORD?

"SORRY, I WAS OUTTA TOWN." WHERE? "THE MACROVERSE." YEAH, LIKE THAT'LL--

--FLYYYY-- **YEOWW!** SPIDER-SENSE! AND IT'S GOING CRAZY!

IT HASN'T TINGLED LIKE THIS IN *AGES!* SOMETHING'S WRONG!

SOMETHING'S HORRIBLY, HORRIBLY WRO--

KLONGGG!

THEY'VE COUNTED ALL THE VOTES?

ENOUGH THAT THEY CAN CALL IT.

WHUH?

COME ON...PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, MAN.

THERE IS NO WAY YOU SAW...WHAT YOU THOUGHT YOU SAW.

THIS JUST IN, BOTH MARTIN LI AND WALTER DECLUN...

EXCUSE ME.

...HAVE CONCEDED VICTORY TO THIS HISTORIC THIRD PARTY CANDIDATE. IT'S OFFICIAL...

PARDON ME.

ANYBODY?

I HEAR IT WASN'T EVEN CLOSE. TOTAL LANDSLIDE.

THE WINNER OF THIS SPECIAL ELECTION, AND THE NEXT MAYOR OF NEW YORK IS...

IS THIS FOR REAL?!

SHHH!

J. JONAH JAMESON!

'NUFF SAID!

VOTE JJJ!

J.J.J. WINS

JAMESON, MAYOR ELECT

JONAH WINS

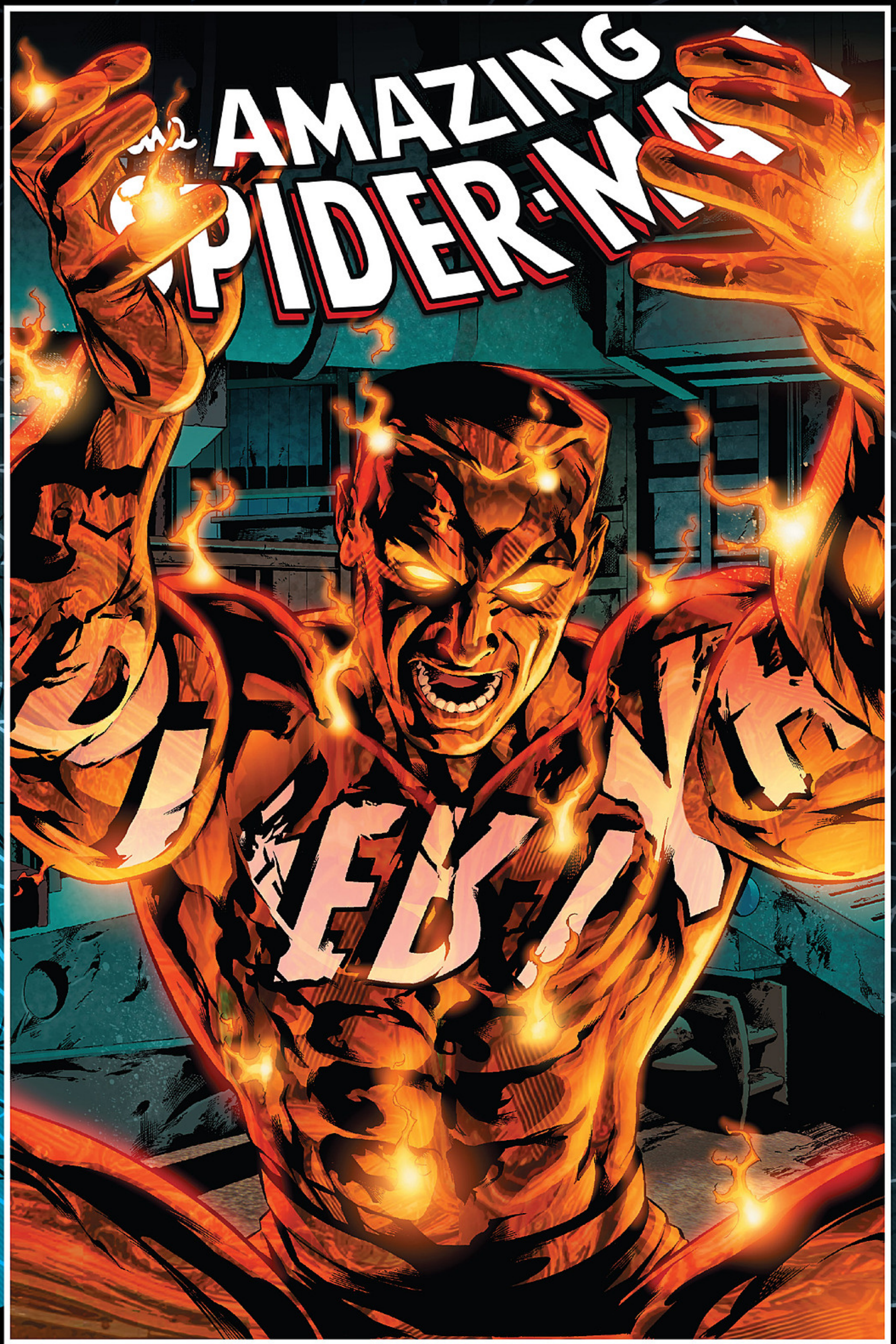
RK CITY

GOTTA BE A DREAM. A PRANK. A HOAX. LA LA LA LA THIS IS NOT HAPPENING!

NOT A DREAM! NOT A HOAX! NOT A CHANCE IN THE WORLD THIS IS GONNA END WELL FOR THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK (HEY, THAT'S US!)!

Next: More On Mayor Jameson, Aunt May's Love Life (eww)...
and The Debut of The Vulture In... Spider-Man: 24/7!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #579 VILLAIN VARIANT
BY **MIKE McKONE**



AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #581 VILLAIN VARIANT
BY **MIKE McKONE**

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #583 2ND PRINTING VARIANT

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #583 3RD PRINTING VARIANT

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #583 4TH PRINTING VARIANT

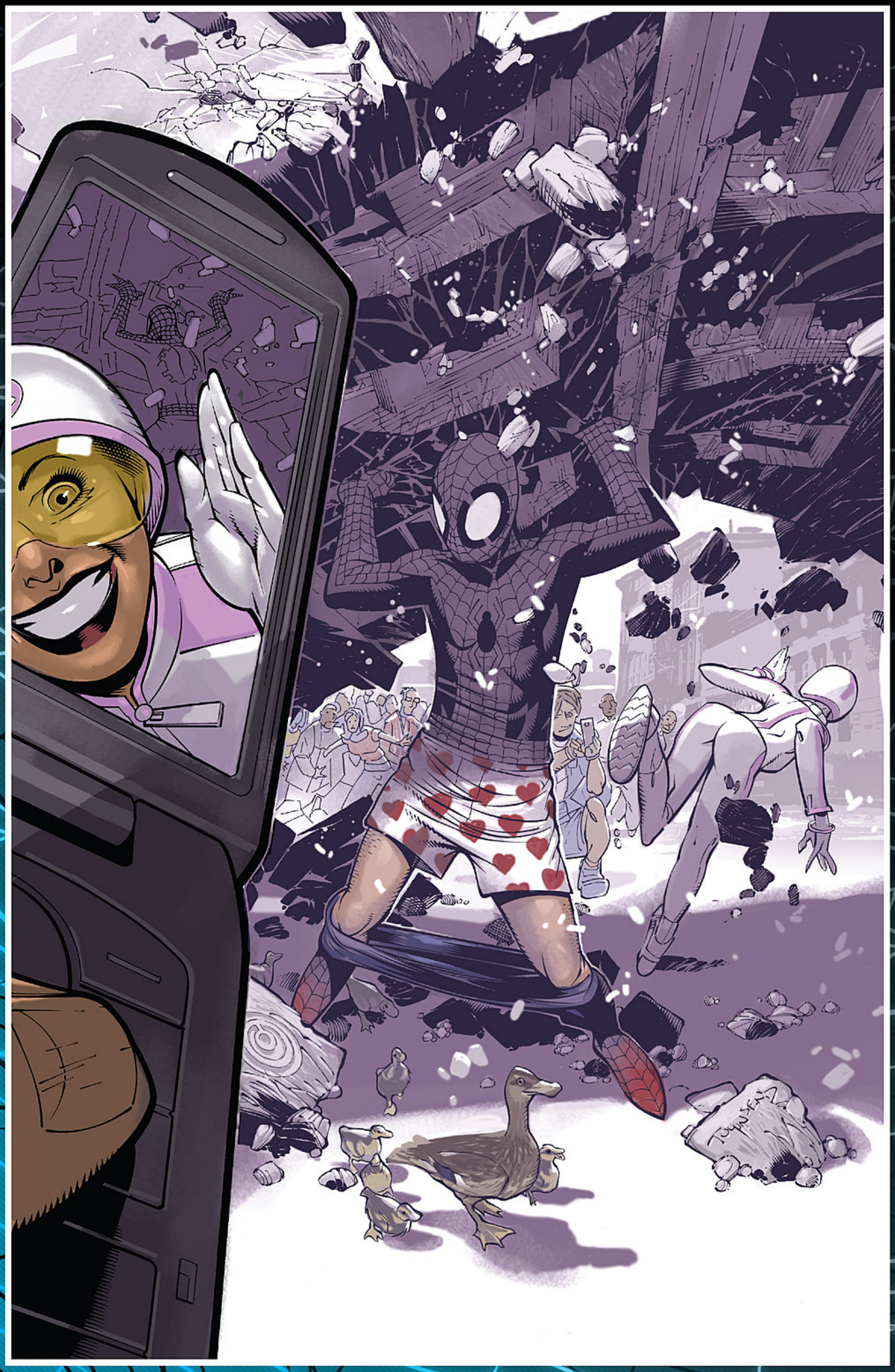
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #583 5TH PRINTING VARIANT

SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY YEARBOOK PINUP

BY BARRY KITSON

SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY YEARBOOK PINUP

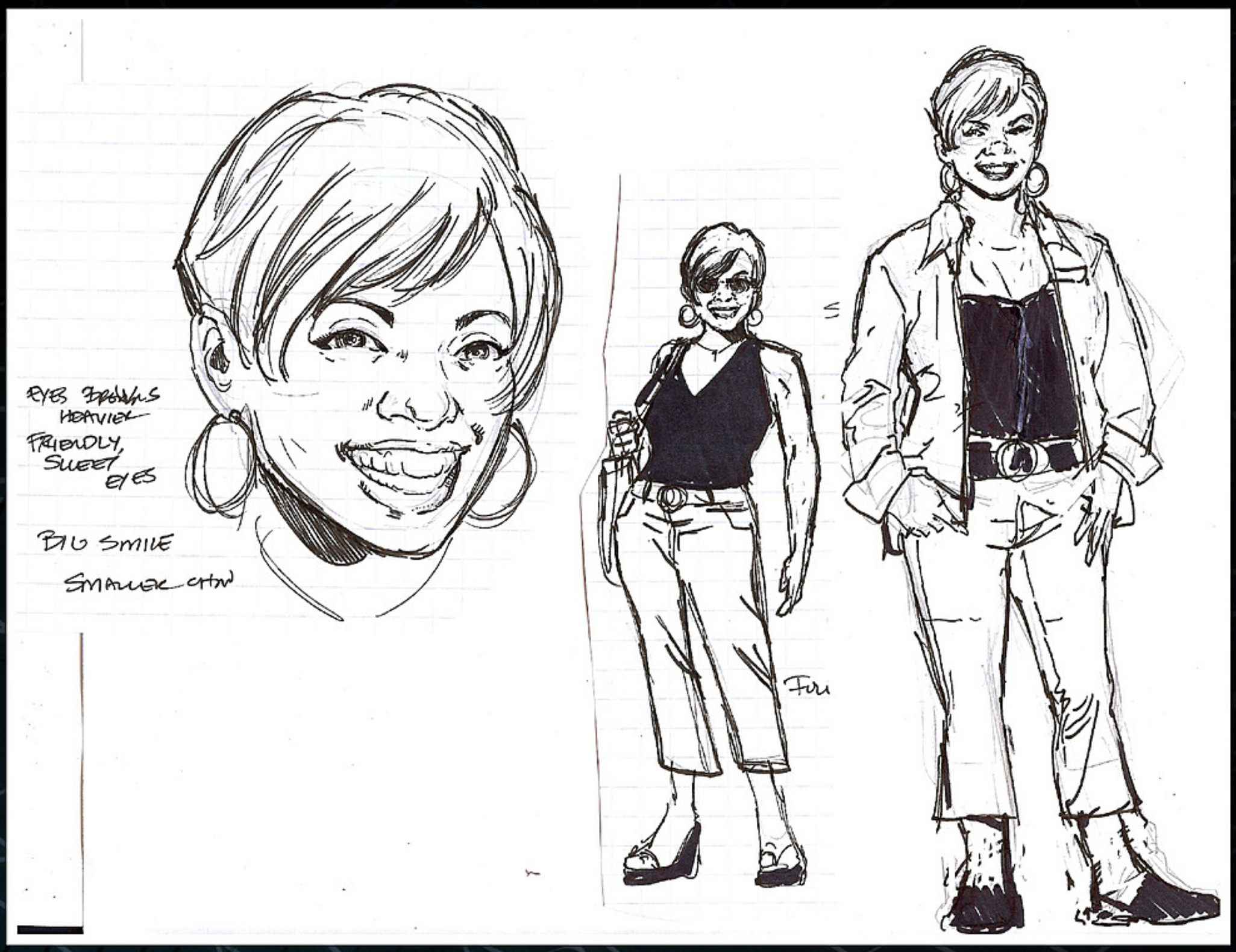
BY CHRIS BACHALO & TIM TOWNSEND

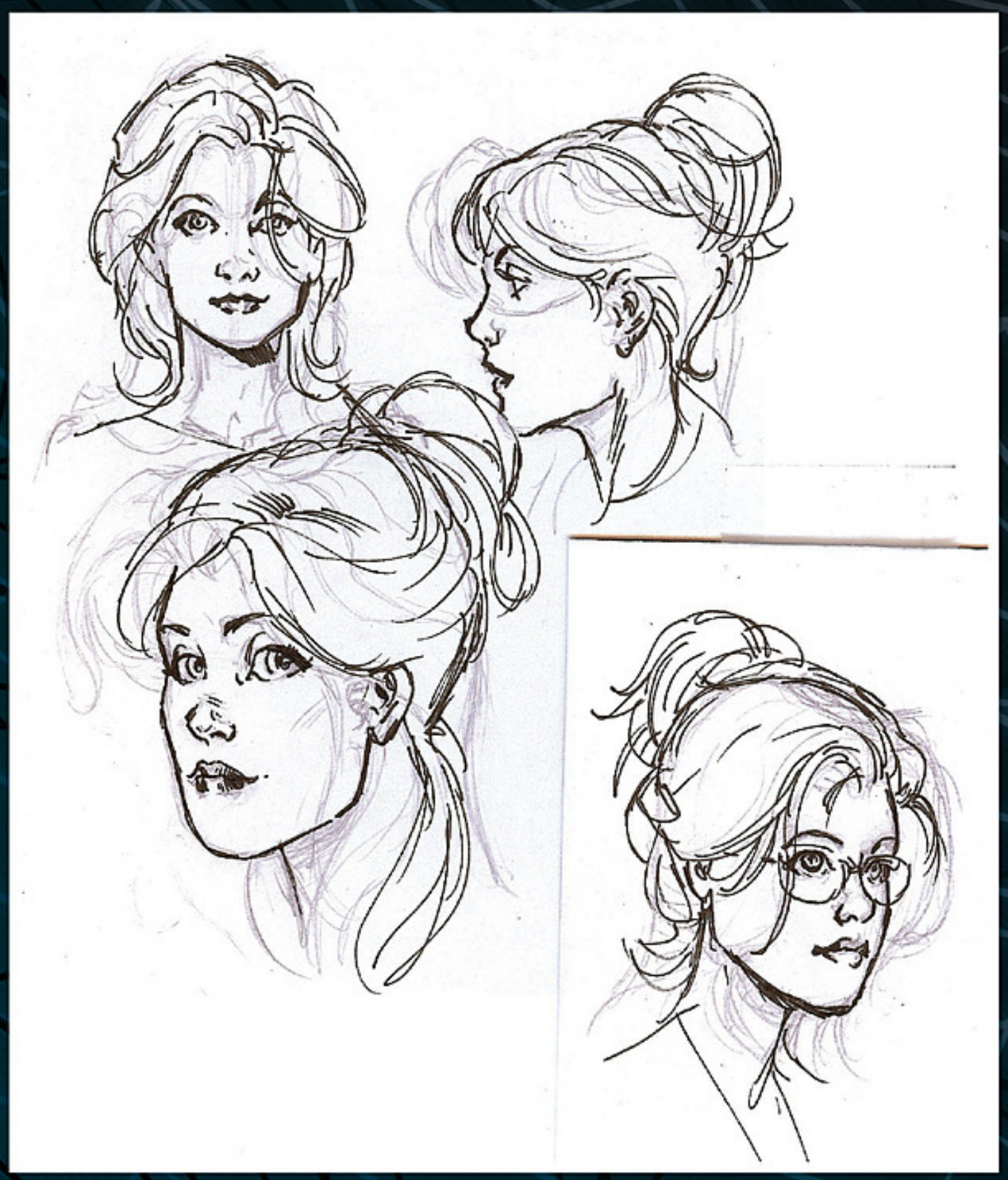


SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY YEARBOOK PINUP

BY CHRIS BACHALO & TIM TOWNSEND

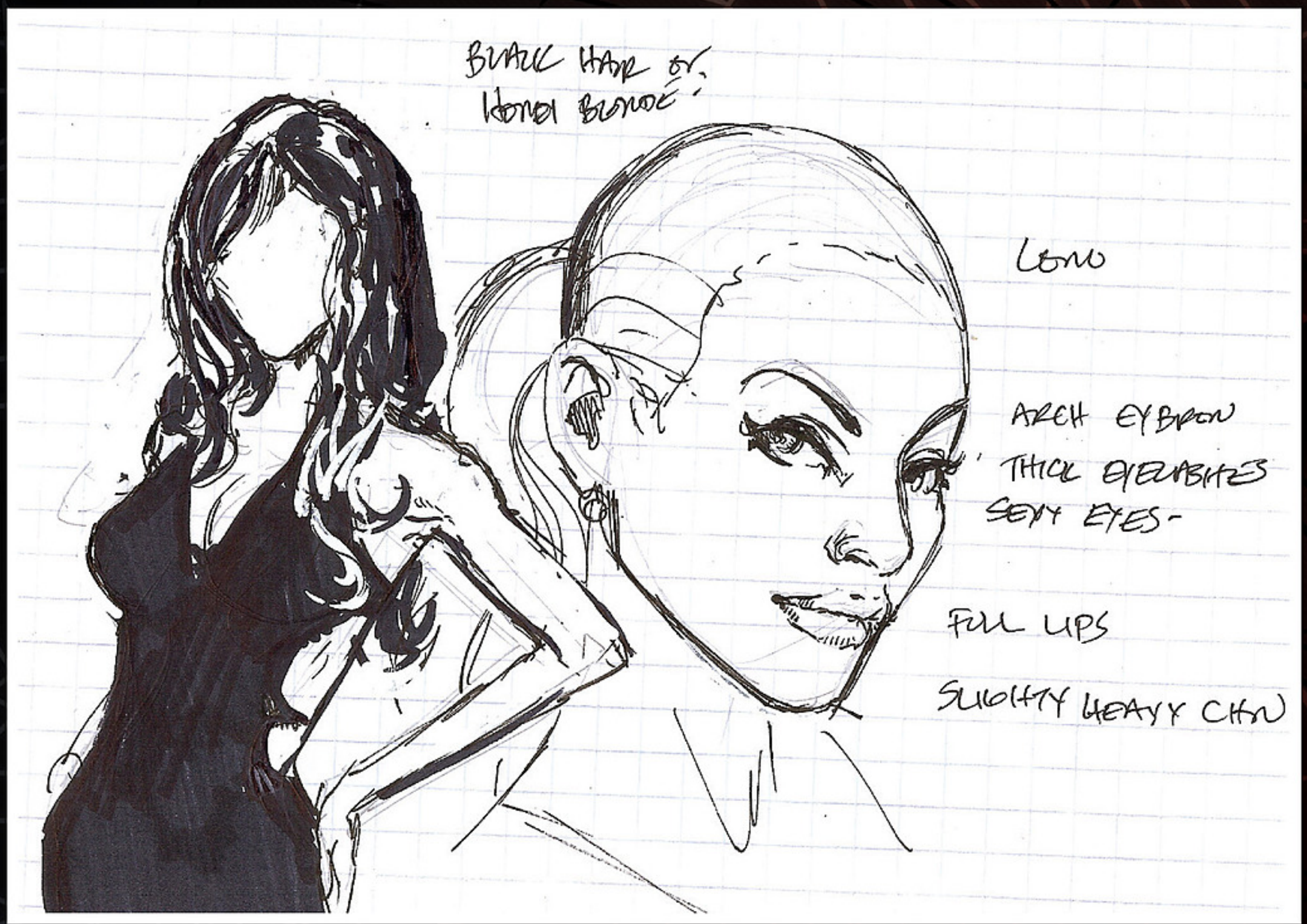
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: EXTRA #3 CHARACTER SKETCHES
BY **JOE QUESADA** & **SALVADOR LARROCA**
WITH NOTES FROM **TOM BRENNAN**



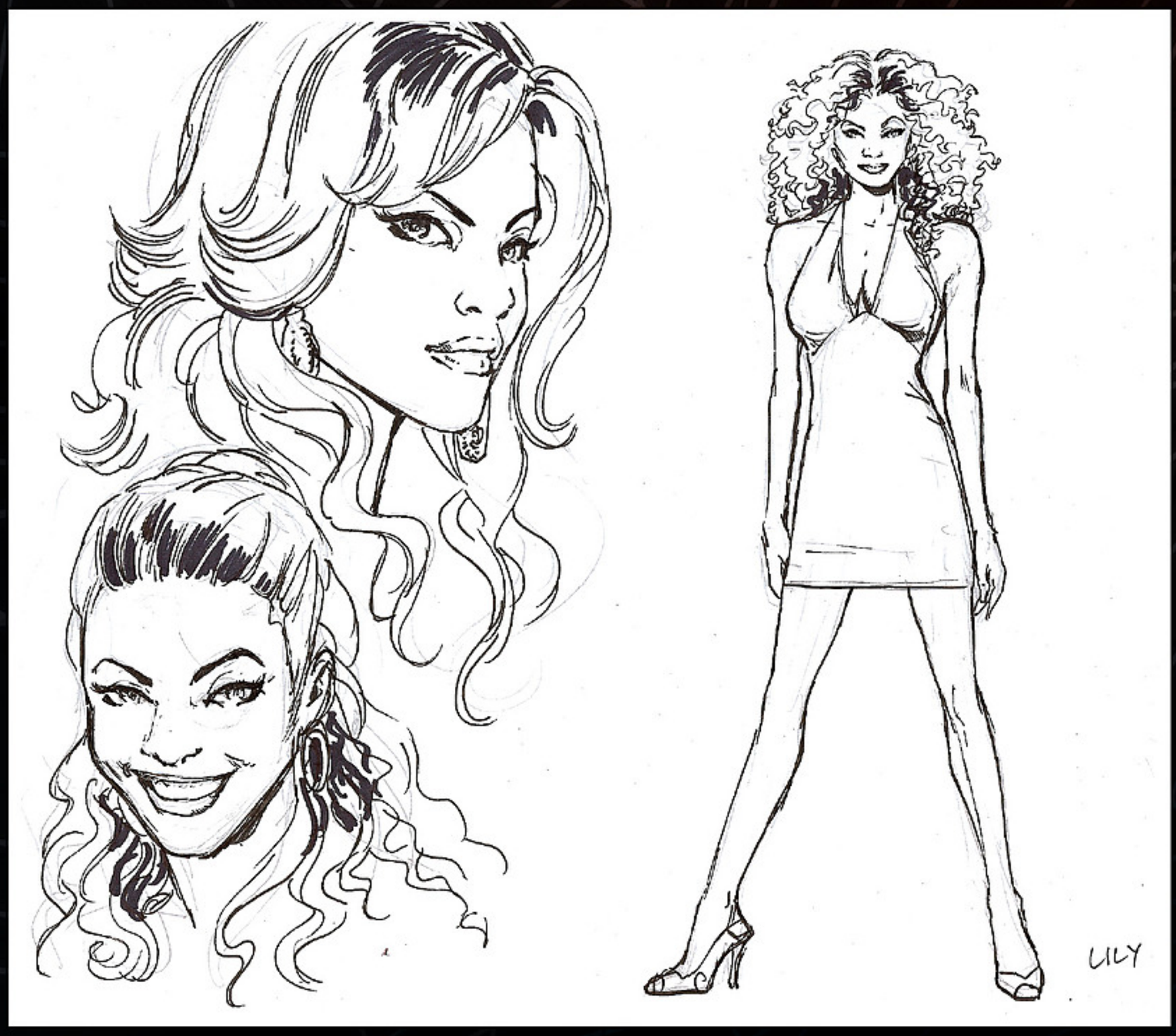


Tom Brennan, 8th best Assistant Editor at Marvel Comics here. During all of the preproduction for "Brand New Day," every artist in the Mighty Marvel Stables (cleaned daily by yours truly) wanted a shot at designing Spidey's supporting cast. Check out this early design for our resident CSI, Carlie Cooper, by Phil Jimenez.

As you can see from Joe Q's later sketches, Carlie's gone through a lot of changes to get where she is today. They grow up so fast, don't they?

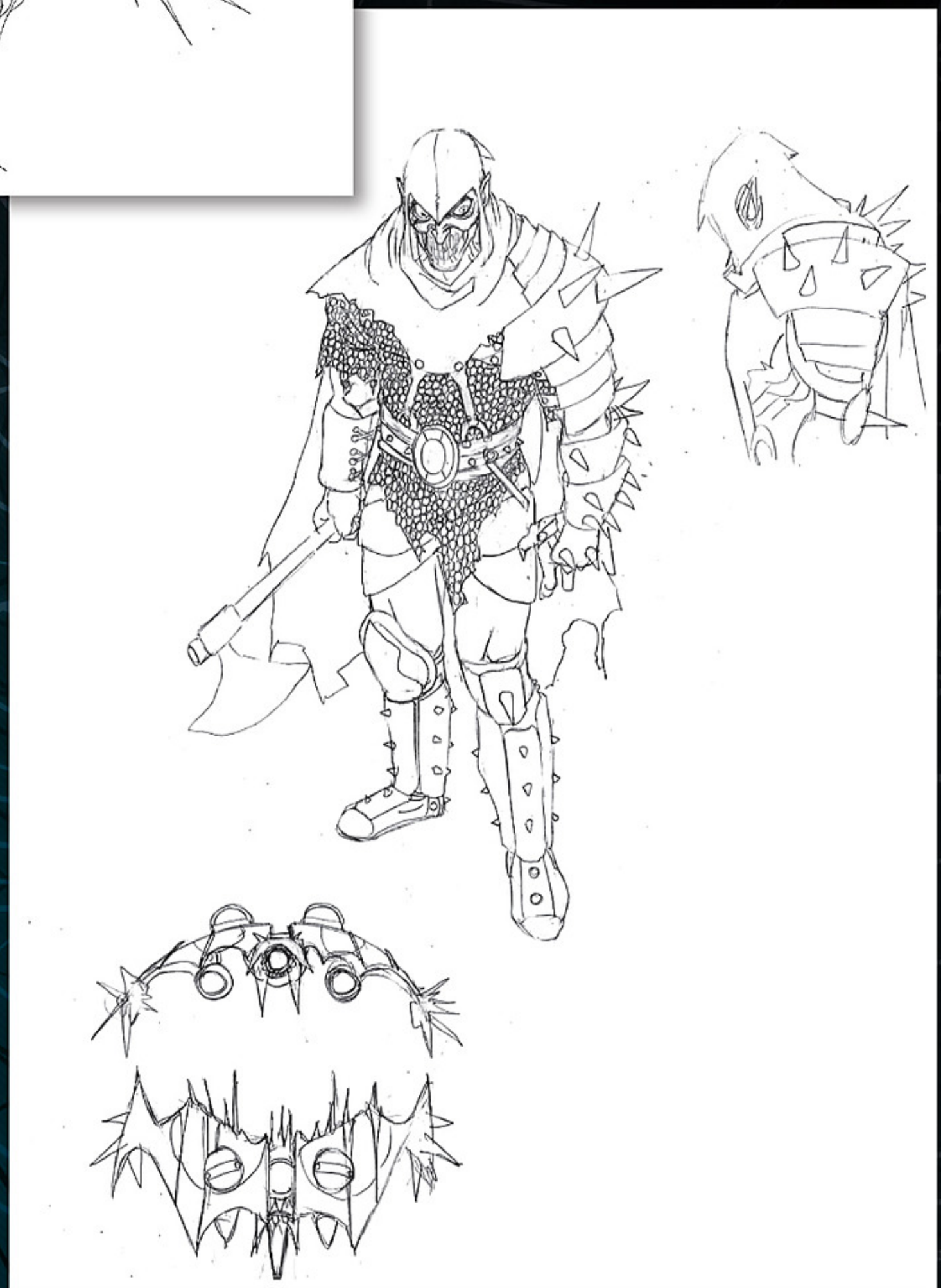


Not to be outdone by her best friend Carlie,
take a peek at these designs for Lily Hollister,
Harry Osborn's estranged lady love and the
true identity of Spider-Man's archfoe, MENACE!

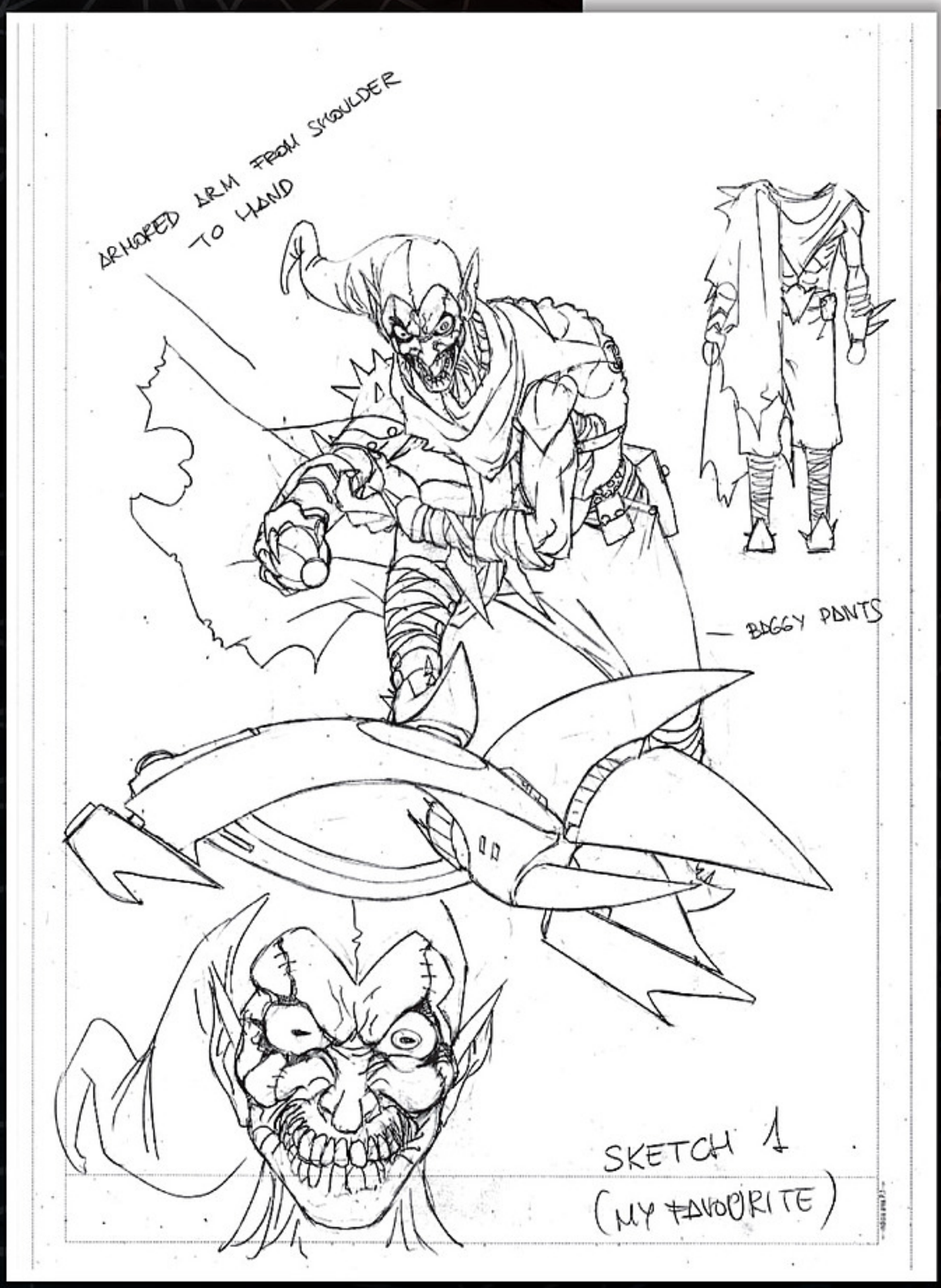


Speaking of Lily Hollister's alter ego, let's take a look at how Menace was born.

After years of Green-, Hob-, Demo- and Vanilla Bean Goblins, we know part of what makes Spider-Man great is his villains, particularly the set of cackling, glider-riding, pumpkin-bomb-throwing jerks he's fought off time and again. To ensure Menace lived up to this lethal lineage, Salvador Larroca pulled out all the stops on these sinister character sketches.



Here's more of Salvador Larroca's sketches for the latest and greatest glider-rider, Menace. Stay tuned, Spider-Fans, Menace isn't through with us — not by a long shot!



SPIDER-MAN: BRAND NEW DAY YEARBOOK PINUP

"CHARACTER ASSASSINATION: SAY GOODBYE TO SEASON ONE"
BY **CHRIS ARRANT**

In the upcoming "Character Assassination" story arc, writer Marc Guggenheim and artist John Romita Jr. are taking the recent events of the "Brand New Day" era of Amazing Spider-Man to a pulse-pounding conclusion. Scheduled to start in issue #584, Guggenheim himself described it as a "wide-screen, big-action, explosive-style story" that culminates various storylines that have developed over the past year such as the NYC mayoral election, the truth behind the Spider-Tracer Killings and — best of all — the real identity of Menace.

This is a first-time collaboration between Guggenheim and Romita, but they're both Spider-Man vets: Guggenheim as one of the esteemed "Brand New Day" Spidey braintrust writers and Romita Jr. as the definitive modern artist for Spider-Man, with more than his fair share of critically acclaimed arcs on Amazing Spider-Man through the years. Together they are working on what's been called the season finale of Amazing Spider-Man and the end of the first chapter of "Brand New Day." The Marvel Spotlight team brought them together to chat about their high-concept collaboration for this special Yearbook feature!

SPOTLIGHT: Thanks for talking with us, guys. What can you tell us about the upcoming "Character Assassination" story arc in Amazing Spider-Man?

MARC: Basically, the environment in which this story is set is the waning days of the New York City mayoral campaign that started in the first issue of "Brand New Day." The mayor was stepping down and two new candidates are vying for the position, so that's served as a backdrop — the ticking clock.

Then, into that environment one of the things we've been establishing in the months leading up to this arc is that Spider-Man has been on the run from the police since Amazing Spider-Man #549. That chase is starting to have political consequences and Spidey is now a political football, specifically because of the Spider-Tracer Killings. It's one thing to be a vigilante, but a vigilante who's also a serial killer is completely different. It's actually having consequences on the mayoral polls, so when we begin the "Character Assassination" story arc, the pressure to catch Spider-Man is at a fever pitch.

SPOTLIGHT: And how does this story arc unfold?

MARC: We open "Character Assassination" with the death of one of the "Brand New Day" characters. So it's that person's death that is the final straw, and people are really after Spider-Man. Meanwhile, you'll see that — without spoiling it — Menace is connected to Spider-Man in a surprising way. In the months leading up to "Character Assassination," we've been planting the seeds — there's a great number by Dan Slott in the "New Ways To Die" arc — and we're carrying that momentum into this arc.

SPOTLIGHT: You mentioned a surprising connection between Menace and Spider-Man, and I think it's related to his real identity. It's been said that the real identity of Menace will be revealed in this arc — is that true?

MARC: Here's the reality: You only have X number of characters in any given story, and when you have a character with a secret identity you have X + 1 options.

SPOTLIGHT: Wow. Algebra. (Laughter.)

MARC: (Laughter.) What the X + 1 means is that you can have any of the established characters (the Xs) be revealed, or screw over the readers by revealing it as an unknown person. I can guarantee you that it won't be that. We're going to reveal that it's someone they've met. The other thing I've promised is that it won't be a situation like Hobgoblin where at the last minute the reveal is changed.

With Menace, the "Brand New Day" Spider-Man braintrust created the character. All of us put time into designing Menace, from the look to modus operandi and secret identity. Menace's secret identity and motivations were part and parcel from day one. There's no twist on the twist that makes the reveal feel ultimately unsatisfying; you've got to ride the horse you've ridden in on. You've seen it done with Marvel's Hobgoblin and in the DC universe with Monarch.

I'm glad we stayed the course with Menace.

SPOTLIGHT: Let's venture into wild speculation and ask: How do you think fans will react to the real identity of Menace?

MARC: I hope it turns out great. This is a "whodunit-style" mystery, and when you have X number of suspects some people will have picked the right person just going by statistics. But the hope is that we fooled the majority of people. If you've got five suspects in a whodunit, one-fifth of your audience isn't likely to be surprised. They're basically shooting fish in the barrel with a one in five chance of being right.

I think people will be satisfied. I come from the school of

thought that when the suspense of the whodunit is over, it's over. But once you reveal the identity, the "why-dunit" is far more compelling. Then you're really getting at the motivation, which is a much more interesting mystery.

SPOTLIGHT: Besides Spider-Man and Menace, who else plays big roles in the series?

MARC: Harry is huge. Vin is huge. Carly is huge. Vin's partner, O'Neil plays a large role as well. We try to bring in most of the new characters that we've seen. Lily and Dexter Bennett both make appearances, and at the same time we've got appearances by Jonah J. Jameson and Matt Murdock so it's a pretty wide-ranging story. I was able to play with almost all of the toys in the past year.

SPOTLIGHT: Speaking of the big story unfolding with the "Brand New Day" era of Amazing Spider-Man, what have been the high points in your personal opinion?

MARC: I really feel like the recent "New Ways To Die" story arc was really strong. It did everything we set out to do, in terms of taking some of the older, more established villains out of the lockbox we put them in at the beginning of "Brand New Day." It's very hard in today's marketplace to introduce a whole bunch of new villains like Menace, Paper Doll, Freak and Mr. Negative. I have to say it was very commercially risky because everyone has their beloved characters they're familiar with. Asking readers to spend six or so months without those characters is a risky thing to do.

But ultimately, I think we've got some new characters who'll stick around for a little while. We've got a lot of calls to bring Paper Doll back, and fans are intrigued with the mystery of who Menace is. I'm probably most proud of these new characters — like new chess pieces on a board.

SPOTLIGHT: Since we're talking villains here, and the Marvel Universe is going into Dark Reign with a focus on super-villains, in your opinion, John, who is the biggest standout in Spidey's "rogues' gallery?"
JOHN: They've made Norman a viable character again on his own, and that's fine — he's a mainstay in the Spider-Man mythology.

The new villains have to grow on you a little bit, but the same thing was felt about the now-classic villains. If I'd seen Doctor Octopus as an adult first and not growing up with him I might not have enjoyed him at all. Every villain needs a chance to develop; Menace in particular serves his purpose, but before you ask — no, I can't tell you who it is.

SPOTLIGHT: Continuing on that, of all these new characters that you and the Spider-Man braintrust of writers have introduced... who would you like to focus on with their own series down the line?

MARC: A Jackpot limited series. That's the idea that first springs to mind, as she's the one I've spent the most time thinking about. Jackpot is a definite contender, and maybe even an Anti-Venom spin-off limited series.

SPOTLIGHT: You're the veteran on this team, John — a veteran of comics and Spider-Man in particular. First of all, how do you think "Brand New Day" changed Spider-Man?

JOHN: In my opinion, I wouldn't have done it this way but I've disagreed many times and it's worked out fine. You can't go by me. (Laughter.)

The solution that JMS and Quesada got to was brilliant. In business, you have to do things to shake things up. And maybe that's how they felt when they revealed Spider-Man's identity, and the landscape with "Brand New Day" is positive.

SPOTLIGHT: Your first shot in the new "Brand New Day" landscape was the "New Ways To Die" story arc with Dan Slott. How was that experience for you?

JOHN: Dan Slott's plots were great, and working with Klaus Janson was superb. As an arc, I thought it was fun and quality. I've never been the biggest fan of Venom or Carnage to begin with, but adding Anti-Venom was a fun addition. I tend to stay away from the insane characters that were so wild, but be that as it may, if you accept the premise then the story is great. I enjoy drawing Anti-Venom.

SPOTLIGHT: Let's turn it back to you, Marc. You're working with an artist who many have called the definitive Spider-Man artist of the modern day: John Romita Jr. Have you had a chance to talk to John about the arc?

MARC: John and I spoke face to face back at San Diego Comic-Con in July. Specifically, we spoke about the arc and he told me what he'd like to draw — his hopes, choices and preferences. I sort of took that and ran with it.

When we launched "Brand New Day," the first two arcs set in motion a lot of plot threads: We have the mayoral election, the new villain Menace and the Spider-Tracer Killings. There's a whole lot running that has been going on for over a year now. I think that a full year, publishing three times per month, is enough. The mission statement to the "Character Assassination" story arc is to resolve it all in one big widescreen blockbuster.

SPOTLIGHT: What's it been like working with John on this story arc?

MARC: I have a very weird life because I'm a huge comic-book fan, specifically of John's work all the way back to his original run on Amazing Spider-Man, Uncanny X-Men and Daredevil. It's a very surreal experience to work with someone whom I've admired for decades. It's almost paralyzing to write for someone of that caliber that looms so large in your memory.

The only way to do it is to take a step back and just write the story. That's really what I've endeavored to do: Create a story that John Romita Jr. would want to draw, play to his strengths and wrap up storylines.

One of the choices I made early on in the structure of the book is that whenever we had action sequences, I would script it as double-page spreads to give it as "wide-screen" a feel as possible. The goal has been to give John room to play around. That's also what led me to give a lot more leeway than usual in choreographing fight scenes. I'm usually pretty specific, but I'm giving John free reign so that you can see the unfiltered, unplugged JRJR.

My hope is that in addition to telling a great story, it answers a lot of burning questions while also getting the most uninhibited JRJR you can.

SPOTLIGHT: John, how about you — how's the story shaping up?

JOHN: Well, I can't tell for sure until I'm physically drawing it. I just began work on it, making notes on the script pages. [This interview was conducted in late October— Ed.] Marc's script is a full script as opposed to a plot, which I prefer. The writers I work with tend to defer to me on the precise details, and let me massage it out as I please.

But don't take that as a negative…from what I've read and seen in the past, Marc's a great writer. Just like Dan Slott and the others I've worked with in the past. They know how to tell stories, and it's up to me not to screw it up.

SPOTLIGHT: You've described the "Character Assassination" story arc has being a "wide-screen, big-action, explosive-style story." Sounds like the season finale of a television show — can you tell us about it?

MARC: Comparing it to the season finale of a TV show is a good analogy, and that's pretty much what it feels like. We're closing the book on the first chapter of "Brand New Day" just by bringing long-running storylines to a landing. Towards that end, I really wanted to give this arc its own signature and style. A lot of times with a season finale, they push the budget and you see an enhanced style on the screen. The idea of that is to make every aspect of that episode special.

With that sort of thinking into how to visually make this arc interesting, I thought we really haven't made total use of double-page spreads as a storytelling device. Not on every single page, but only when the action ramps up; when there are quieter, more suspenseful character moments, you have those conventional pages. The advantages of doing it that way is that you don't constantly feel like you're getting yelled at. That ebb and flow is what makes the quiet moments resonate.

We join Marc in our utter admiration of the great John Romita Jr., who proved in "New Ways To Die" that he still has plenty left to say with ol' Spidey. But Marc ain't no slouch either! His contribution to the Spidey braintrust has been immense and getting to close out "Season One" proves it. "Character Assassination" begins with AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #584. See you there, fellow Spidey fan!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #581 LETTERS PAGE

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

Send e-mail to
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Well, that does it. Since January 1, 2008, you've seen 36 on-time issues of Amazing Spider-Man. It's a feat this editor is particularly proud of, though there's very little in getting it out the door and into your sweaty 100-calorie-Oreo-bagged laps that I can take credit or responsibility for. There's a lot of behind-the-scenes work on these comics that are done by people who don't get to do interviews or make sure their name in the credits is a subtle 2-points larger than their assistant's.

We really owe it to these folks for pulling it all together. I'm going to list some of them here, but this ain't the movies, so don't skip the credits. These are real flesh-and-blood, hard-working folks here.

LATE CORRECTION:
There is one robot on staff!

So thanks to

Joe Sabino *Brad Johansen*
Irene Lee *Paul Acerios*
Anthony Dial *Damien Lucchese*
Rich G.I.N.T.E.R. *Deb Weinstein*
Omar Otieku

Brennan and I also both had a huge amount of help from our interns over the last year or so including;

Keith Mondaca, Eric Harburn, Jody LeHeup (hey, he's an assistant editor now!) and Adam Szymczak

Of course, I also owe it to the hard-working talent on this book who have been delivering their best month in and month out and have promised to up their game even more in 2009 (well, except for Joe Kelly, who for some reas is reducing his quality by 1.5 percent aggregate through the 4th quarter 2010.)

On the creative side, I really owe it to letterer Cory Petit from Chris Eliopolous' Virtual Calligraphy studio for lettering most of the issues this year, which included some massive last minute changes due to my legendarily mercurial nature and lack of consideration for other people's time. Thanks sincerely, Cory.

Finally, I want to give a much deserved uncomfortably lingering letter column hug to my assistant Tom Brennan. I say "my assistant" because I consider him like a stray puppy I saved from the cold world of Morning Network News (I can't say which network, but it rhymes with Bee-Bee-Bess.) I saw in him a threat to my position, so wisely I took him in and made him an underling (just as Brevoort did to me).

Through the months, I showed him the brotherly love that says that he was worthy of a barely paid position fetching my only positive-clippings from the nascent comic book press while blocking me from all criticism and labor.

Truthfully though, Tom works his buns off on this book and I thank him sincerely.

Now if all of that reads like an ending more than a beginning, let me assure you that is not the case at all. 2009 promises to be even bigger than 2008 for Spidey with more surprises than can probably even fit between the pages of the books.

Schedule wise, we're still on track for the next year, though we do have a couple of upcoming months where we'll publish two issues instead of three due to some issues being double-sized. We've also got at least three all-new AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: EXTRAS! planned for the year, an annual, the soon-to-be monthly AMAZING SPIDER-MAN FAMILY, and a mini-series by one of the top creators in comics.

Plus there are plenty of special one-shot Spidey projects including a hysterical mistaken identity story by Seth Myers and Bill Hader of Saturday Night Live with art by the legenday Kevin Maguire. There's more I can't even talk about yet, but you'll hear about it as we get closer.

Man, Brennan's going to be busy next year!

And with that, I'll leave our 36th consecutive letter-column-that-I-worked-on-'till-2 a.m. (taking not only my sleep but any hopes of a lasting marriage) with one more huge thanks to all of you out there who, whether you loved or hated the book, let us know about it in no uncertain terms and have really made this experiment more successful for Marvel than we imagined. All of us hope you like what's coming over the next 12 months and to show you my appreciation…here's a couple teases for what '09 brings:

American Son
Who da Mayor?
Bachelor Party.
Fantastic Five.
Fishbowl Head, 4-arms and a flying Larry David.

And finally…
Prepare for the Sinister 666.

Happy New Year!
Simperin' Steve
11/24/08

Tom Brennan
Asst. Editor

Stephen Wacker
Editor

Tom Brevoort
Executive Editor

Joe Sabino
Production

Joe Quesada
Editor in Chief

Dan Buckley
Publisher

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #582 LETTERS PAGE

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAIL

Send e-mail to
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No real letter column this week. Instead, welcome to the beginning of a new tradition! The First Annual Amazing Spider-Mail End-of-the-Year lists for 2008!

Each year we here at the Spidey office will give our official countdown of various things we feel like ranking. Enjoy!

Writer with most issues of Amazing Spider-Man in 2008.
1) Dan Slott – 13.33 issues*
2) Marc Guggenheim – 7.33 issues*
3) Bob Gale – 6.33 issues*
4) Zeb Wells – 4 issues
5) Mark Waid and Joe Kelly-2 issue each
6) Roger Stern – 1 issue
*ASM #564 was a jam issue with 3 writers

2008 Spidey penciler with most difficult to pronounce names.
1) Chris Bachalo
2) Paulo Siqueira
3) Phil Jimenez
4) Fozwell Fxlptlk

Favorite member of Spidey Editorial (NOT INCLUDING Stephen Wacker version).
1)Tom Brennan
2)Tom Brevoort
57) Joe Quesada

Top misspellings of Geoff Johns.
1) Jeph Jons
2) Guff Groin
3) Jefe Melendez
4) Juff Jones
5) Sterling Gates

Most annoying songs sung by Stephen Wacker while rest of office trying to work.
1) Cast Aways - Backyardigans
2) Don't Mean Nothin' - Richard Marx
3) Chasing Pavement - Adele
4) Welcome Back Kotter theme - John Sebastian (and I didn't have to even look it up)

Comics Professional most mocked in Spidey-office in 2008.
1) Tom Brennan
2) Joe Quesada (only by Brevoort though. I think you're great)
3) Klaus Janson (only by me though, they think you're great)
4) Bill Rosemann

Best Film.
1) Weird. Marvel's computer will only let me type "Iron Man" here. However, I really think Danny Boyle's "Iron Man" and Meryl Streep's performance in "Iron Man" were standouts in a year filled with great movies. Even Pixar's "Iron Man" could be a potential Best Picture winner.

The Brian Bendis Memorial list of Top Bald Comic Pros of 2008.
1) Dan Didio
2) Nate Cosby
3) Greg Rucka (who wants me to yell at you that he could grow hair if he wanted to)
4) Dan Slott
I can't think of anymore.

Best Spider-Man Assistant Editors 2008.
-No award this year.

Worst Financial Scandals.
1) Subprime Mortgage crisis
2) Soda machine on 10th floor ate my Monopoly dollar.

Best super hero comics I pretend are great but that I'm really way behind reading.
1) Anything by Brubaker
2) Green Lantern
3) Fantastic Four
4) Nightwing

Best editorial errors.
1) Forgetting to print dialogue and art stats in your comics and then blaming "Hank" in production.
2) Ms. Marvel wearing cast on wrong arm (Ms. Marvel #34)
3) Too many to mention…then blaming "Hank" in production (ASM #546-current)

Top comic book creators who probably don't even know who I am.
1) Mark Millar
2) Jeph Loeb
3) Greg Rucka
4) John Cassaday
5) Joss Whedon
6) Neil Gaiman

Favorite member of Spidey Editorial (INCLUDING Stephen Wacker version).
1) Tom Brennan
2) Tom Brevoort
3) Joe Quesada
4) Jim Salicrup
5-78) Anyone else who ever worked on the book
79-6,000,000,000) Anyone else on Earth
6,000,000,001) …sigh…Stephen Wacker
6,000,000,002) Ralph Macchio

Best TV shows I'm still trying to get through on my DVR, but it's hard with kids and a thrice monthly book.
1) Mad Men
2) The Wire
3) Friday Night Lights
4) Heroes
5) Eli Stone

Favorite video games played for 20 minutes per week if I'm lucky.
1) Grand Theft Auto IV
2) Mirror's Edge
3) Spider-Man: Friend Or Foe
4) Fallout 3
5) Wii Fit. (If you saw me, this one would be obvious.)

Best pieces of comic gossip that ultimately turned out to be untrue, but I still kept talking about like they were factual.
1) Matt Fraction beaten up by three Yo Gabba Gabba cosplay girls.
2) Bendis somehow pregnant.
3) John Romita Jr. excited to work with me.
4) Brevoort slugs Brubaker in his hipster hat at Baltimore Con.
5) Warren Ellis sends e-mail to his mailing list from someplace other than pub.

Best summers spent singing and dancing in goofy shows at Six Flags.
1) 1990
2) 1988
3) 1993
4) 1987
5) 1989

Top categories I deleted from this column because I'm a coward.
1) Stinkiest freelancer
2) Hairiest executive editor
3) People who have confused Joe Kelly for Joe Casey
4) Sexiest letterer
5) Giant crossover events with most time spent in Savage Land.
6) Best Comics co-writtenby Homer and Roy Thomas
7) Most awesome piece of comic gossip I know, but the legal department will in no way let me publish it here. Though I can say it involves Dan Buckley, three miniature Statues of Liberty, the cast of STOMP and Greg Pak.

Best internet message board fans who think I'm a dolt.
1) Congrats. You're all winners!!!

See you in seven, everybody!

Simperin' Steve!
12/16/18

Cover by Mike McKone, Andy Lanning and Antonio Fabela

Tom Brennan
Asst. Editor

Stephen Wacker
Editor

Tom Brevoort
Executive Editor

Joe Sabino
Production

Joe Quesada
Editor in Chief

Dan Buckley
Publisher

SPIDER-MAN'S BRAND NEW DAY CONTINUES!

An earthquake traps Spidey and a subway car full of New Yorkers underground, but what does it have to do with the trial of a high-ranking mob boss — or J. Jonah Jameson? When a bizarre faceless felon endangers Aunt May, how can Spider-Man stop a guy who can slip through his webbing? Learn how Harry Osborn came back from the dead and who's been terrorizing people as Menace! Meet the new mayor of New York City! Discover how an adventure from the past will have a profound effect on the future of Spider-Man and the Fantastic Four! And fear the macabre Man-Thing! Plus: Spider-Man teams up with President Obama!

Collecting Amazing Spider-Man (1999) #578-591, Amazing Spider-Man: Presidents' Day Special, Spider-Man: Fear Itself One-Shot, and *Amazing Spider-Man: Extra! #2-3* and material from *#1* — written by Mark Waid, Roger Stern, Dan Slott, Zeb Wells, Marc Guggenheim, Fred Van Lente, Stuart Moore, Joe Kelly and Phil Jimenez; and illustrated by Marcos Martin, Lee Weeks, Mike McKone, Barry Kitson, Todd Nauck, John Romita Jr., Paulo Siqueira, Joseph Suitor, Dale Eaglesham, Chris Bachalo, Paolo Rivera and more.

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